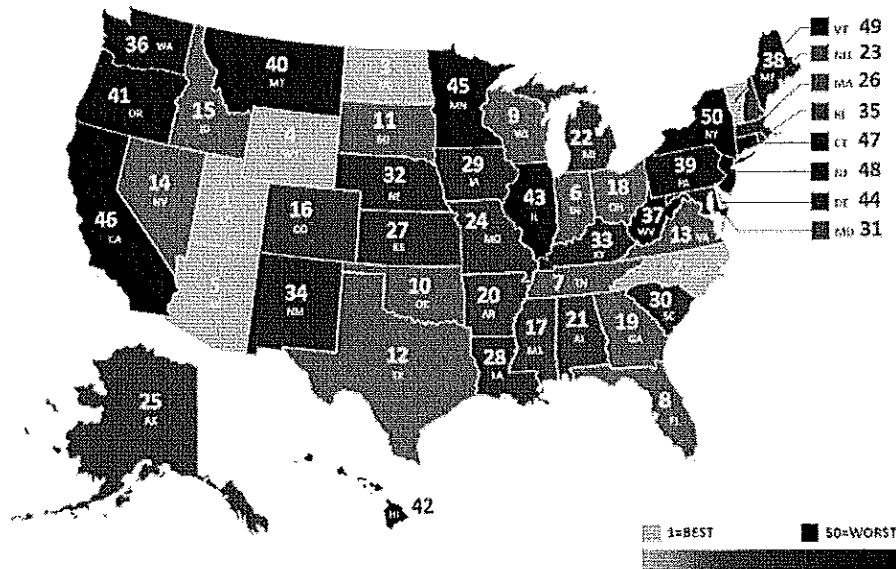


2016 RICH STATES, POOR STATES ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANKINGS



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AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE COUNCIL

The rankings prove that cutting and eliminating taxes, reducing spending, and enacting labor reforms are the keys to economic prosperity. Ohio has taken steps on the first two counts, which means that the good news is that Ohio no longer has a bottom five ranking in this index, a place it had languished far too long. The bad news is that Ohio can't afford complacency and desperately needs to join our neighboring states in reforming labor laws. Wisconsin, which reformed its collective bargaining laws for public employees and adopted Right to Work, moved into the top ten on the Rich States, Poor States index. Ohio needs real labor reform in order to continue its ascent and reach its economic potential.

Thank you for supporting The Buckeye Institute's efforts to promote sound public policy in Ohio and all of the states.

###

Founded in 1989, The Buckeye Institute is an independent research and educational institution--a think tank--whose mission is to advance free-market public policy in the states.

The Buckeye Institute, 88 East Broad Street,
Suite 1120, Columbus, OH 43215

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Sent by info@buckeyeinstitute.org

From: Roger Beckett
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2016 10:22 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: Your Invitation to Ashbrook Luncheon on Tuesday, April 19



We invite you to join us for lunch and a

Major Issues Lecture

on Tuesday, April 19, 2016

Jason Riley, Manhattan Institute Senior Fellow

"The State Against Blacks"

12:00 p.m.

John C. Myers Convocation Center at Ashland University

Jason Riley is a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute and a columnist for the *Wall Street Journal*, where he worked for more than 20 years writing opinion pieces on politics, economics, education, immigration and race, among other subjects. He's also a commentator for Fox News, where he has appeared for more than a decade, and a frequent public speaker.

After joining the *Journal* in 1994, he was named a senior editorial page writer in 2000 and a member of the Editorial Board in 2005. In 2008 he published *Let Them In*, which argues for a more free-market oriented U.S. immigration policy. His second book, *Please Stop Helping Us*, which is about the track record of government efforts to help the black underclass, was published in 2014. He joined the Manhattan Institute in 2015.

Born in Buffalo, NY, Mr. Riley earned a bachelor's degree in English from the State University of New York at Buffalo. He has also worked for *USA Today* and the *Buffalo News*. He lives in suburban New York City with his wife and three children.

To order tickets or for more information, please visit our [website](#).

Please contact Jen Nixon with any questions at jnixon@ashbrook.org or 419-289-5411.

The Ashbrook Center seeks to restore and strengthen the capacities of the American people for constitutional self-government. Through undergraduate, graduate, and civic programs, the Ashbrook Center aspires to be the leading national educator in the enduring principles and practice of free government in the United States.

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[Ashbrook Center](#)
401 College Avenue, Ashland, OH 44805

From: Roger Beckett

Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2016 1:54 PM

To: Rep88

Subject: One Week Until the John M. Ashbrook Memorial Dinner!



We cordially invite you to attend the

Thirty-First Annual

John M. Ashbrook

Memorial Dinner

featuring

Ed Rollins

Wednesday, April 27

Myers Convocation Center, Ashland University

Doors Open: 5:30 pm

Dinner 6:30 pm

In this season of defining political campaigns, we are honored to host one of the nation's finest political consultants at the Ashbrook Memorial Dinner. In 1984, Ed Rollins ran Ronald Reagan's re-election campaign that won 49 of 50 states in the Electoral College.

Before and after the 1984 election, Mr. Rollins worked in the Reagan White House. He accompanied President Reagan to Ashland when he inaugurated the Ashbrook Center in 1983, and we are pleased to welcome him back.

We now have the pleasure of regularly seeing Mr. Rollins on television as a FoxNews Contributor.

We hope you will join us for this special evening to support the students in our Ashbrook Scholar Program at Ashland University.

For tickets and table sponsorships, please visit our [website](#).

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[Ashbrook Center](#)
401 College Avenue, Ashland, OH 44805

From: Roger Beckett
Sent: Monday, May 9, 2016 9:00 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: Ashbrook 31st Memorial Dinner with Ed Rollins (Photos/Videos)



Good morning,

Last week we were honored to introduce Ed Rollins as the keynote speaker for our 31st Annual John M. Ashbrook Memorial Dinner. Mr. Rollins managed Ronald Reagan's 1984 landslide victory and served in the Reagan White House as Political Director. During the evening, Rollins not only spoke about the current election but also told many stories of his time with Reagan. Those attending were delighted to hear him recall the time he accompanied President and Mrs. Reagan to Ashland, when President Reagan personally dedicated the Ashbrook Center in 1983 at the 1st Ashbrook Memorial Dinner.

I am grateful to our sponsors and to those of you who joined us for this event that supports scholarships for undergraduate students in the Ashbrook Scholar program. As Ashbrook Scholars, these young people not only learn about America but also come to understand why their country merits their affection.

Below are some highlights of the evening:

- Ed Rollins received the John M. Ashbrook Award for upholding the ideals of limited constitutional government. View the event's [photo gallery here](#).
- Ashbrook presented the inaugural Outstanding Ashbrook Scholar Alumnus Award to Major Josh Kirk, who in his short life exemplified Ashbrook's commitment to principled leadership. View the [award presentation to Josh's family](#).
- Our evening with Ed Rollins concluded with a panel discussion on the current political climate. Former Ohio Congressman Bob McEwen, who is a member of the Ashbrook board, and Professor Jeff Sikkenga joined Mr. Rollins and me for this [panel discussion](#).

I look forward to sharing more about Ashbrook's upcoming events and programs with you in the future. Thank you for your commitment to Ashbrook and to our effort to preserve

American freedom by teaching what it means to be American.

Sincerely,

Roger L. Beckett
Executive Director

P.S. I hope you will please consider supporting our educational programs at [Ashbrook.org/Donate](https://ashbrook.org/Donate).

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[Ashbrook Center](#)
401 College Avenue, Ashland, OH 44805

From: Roger Beckett

Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 9:50 AM

To: Rep88

Subject: Join Ashbrook on Saturday, May 14 for a Reception with Hugh Hewitt



We cordially invite you to attend a

Special Reception

with

Hugh Hewitt

Saturday, May 14

Ashbrook Center, Ashland University

2:00 pm

Hugh Hewitt, a lawyer, law professor, and broadcast journalist, will be the speaker for Ashland University's Spring Commencement on May 14.

Following his commencement address, Mr. Hewitt will join us in the Ashbrook Center for a reception with light refreshments.

Hewitt, who also served as a panelist at four of the Republican debates during 2016, is a graduate of Harvard College and the University of Michigan Law School, and has been teaching Constitutional Law at Chapman University Law School since it opened in 1995.

Hewitt has been a frequent guest on CNN, Fox News Network, and MSNBC, and has written for *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and the *Los Angeles Times*. He is the author of a dozen books, including two *New York Times* bestsellers.

Hewitt is best known as the host of his radio show, which has an audience estimated at more than two million listeners every week. He also writes daily for his blog, HughHewitt.com, which is among the most visited political blogs in the U.S. He is also a weekly columnist for *The Washington Examiner* and Townhall.com.

We hope you will be able to join us on May 14.

Please contact Jen Nixon at jnixon@ashbrook.org or 419-207-6094

to RSVP by May 12 for this special reception at the Ashbrook Center.

Space is limited

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[Ashbrook Center](#)
401 College Avenue, Ashland, OH 44805

From: Kevin Schmidt

Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 12:32 PM

To: Kevin Schmidt

Subject: Please join on May 18th for breakfast and listen to a panel of state and national leaders discussing criminal justice reform

Attachments: OhioJustice.pdf

The Coalition for Public Safety and Buckeye Institute invite you to join for a late breakfast on May 18th in Columbus, Ohio. The breakfast will include a moderated panel discussion with national and state leaders on criminal justice reform - highlighting examples of successful reforms that ensure just outcomes while cutting costs and maintaining public safety.

Details are in the invitation attached.

Kevin Schmidt

Vice President of Government Relations

C: 614.507.1050 | schmidt@sppgrp.com

STRATEGIC PUBLIC PARTNERS

88 E. Broad St., Ste. 1770 | Columbus, Ohio 43215

P: 614.222.8490 | F: 614.222.8499

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The Coalition for Public Safety + The Buckeye Institute

.....
INVITE YOU TO
.....

Fair Sentencing & Fair Chances: Ohio

*Join us for a late breakfast and moderated panel discussion
with national and state leaders on criminal justice reform —
highlighting examples of successful reforms that ensure just
outcomes while cutting costs and maintaining public safety.*

.....
When: Wednesday, May 18th from 10:30am - 12:00pm

Where: Renaissance Hotel
50 N 3rd St., Columbus, OH 43215

Who: Maryland State Senator Michael Hough, Faith and Freedom Coalition
Jason Pye, FreedomWorks
Michael Brickner, ACLU of Ohio
W. David Guice, Commissioner of Div. of Adult Correction & Juvenile
Justice, former North Carolina State Representative
Moderated by: Daniel Dew, The Buckeye Institute

RSVP here



From: Kevin Schmidt

Sent: Monday, May 16, 2016 1:26 PM

Subject: Reminder - Join us for a late breakfast on May 18th and listen to state and national leaders discuss criminal justice reform

Attachments: OhioJustice.pdf

The Coalition for Public Safety and Buckeye Institute invite you to join at 10:30 am at the Renaissance Hotel for a late breakfast on May 18th in Columbus, Ohio.

The breakfast will include a moderated panel discussion with national and state leaders on criminal justice reform - highlighting examples of successful reforms that ensure just outcomes while cutting costs and maintaining public safety.

Details and RSVP options are in the attached invitation.

--

Kevin Schmidt

Vice President of Government Relations

C: 614.507.1050 | schmidt@sppgrp.com

STRATEGIC PUBLIC PARTNERS

88 E. Broad St., Ste. 1770 | Columbus, Ohio 43215

P: 614.222.8490 | F: 614.222.8499

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The Coalition for Public Safety + The Buckeye Institute

.....
INVITE YOU TO
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Fair Sentencing & Fair Chances: Ohio

*Join us for a late breakfast and moderated panel discussion
with national and state leaders on criminal justice reform —
highlighting examples of successful reforms that ensure just
outcomes while cutting costs and maintaining public safety.*

.....
When: Wednesday, May 18th from 10:30am - 12:00pm

Where: Renaissance Hotel
50 N 3rd St., Columbus, OH 43215

Who: Maryland State Senator Michael Hough, Faith and Freedom Coalition
Jason Pye, FreedomWorks
Michael Brickner, ACLU of Ohio
W. David Guice, Commissioner of Div. of Adult Correction & Juvenile
Justice, former North Carolina State Representative
Moderated by: Daniel Dew, The Buckeye Institute

RSVP here



From: Lindsey Stroud
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2016 1:15 PM
To: Rep88
Subject: The Heartland Institute's Summer Emerging Issues Forum Agenda

Emerging Issues Forum 2016

REGISTER NOW

SCHEDULE

Renaissance Chicago
Downtown Hotel
1 West Upper Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60601

Sunday, August 7
7:00 - 9:00 pm
VIP and Legislators Reception

Saturday, August 8
8:00 am - 3:30 pm
Emerging Issues Forum

The Heartland Institute's Summer Emerging Issues Forum Agenda August 7-8, 2016 in Chicago, Illinois *Travel Scholarships are available!*

You are invited to join The Heartland Institute in Chicago at our Summer Emerging Issues Forum on Sunday, August 7 through Monday, August 8. The Emerging Issues Forum brings together elected officials, policy analysts, and government affairs professionals from across the country.

Prominent free-market policy experts will address and explore solutions to the top policy issues looming on the horizon as we move into 2017. Policy areas will include education, energy and environment, health care, and taxes and the economy.

The Summer Emerging Issues Forum will kick off with a VIP cocktail reception on the evening of Sunday, August 7 at the Renaissance Chicago Downtown Hotel. The policy sessions will take place the following day from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the same location.

Registration is *free* for elected officials, their spouses, and legislative staff. You can register for the event here. If you are currently a member of Heartland's Legislative Forum or use this opportunity to join you will also be eligible for a **travel scholarship of up to \$350 and one night (August 7) accommodations** at the host hotel. Space is limited, however, so register today!

Here is a taste of what will be covered at the event:

Health Care. The panel will discuss how states can open up competition and reduce the costs of health care, even with the Affordable Care Act in place. Solutions we will discuss include using telemedicine, rolling back certificate of need laws, and embracing direct primary care. The panel will also address Medicaid expansion.

Energy and Environment. America has become a leader in energy production despite President Barack Obama's efforts to discourage the use of traditional energy sources such as coal, natural gas, and oil. This panel will discuss the rise of hydraulic fracturing, demise of renewable power mandates, and other pro-environment, pro-energy, and pro-jobs solutions.

Budget and Tax. States are seeking ways to create a better business climate to attract jobs and businesses to their states. Some states have been passing right-to-work laws, pushing tax reform, and reforming their public pension systems, while others have increased taxes and regulations. This panel will discuss which policies are working and which are not.

School Reform. Education outcomes in America continue to lag globally, the debate over Common Core State Standards remains heated, and educational choice options such as education savings accounts and charter schools continue to grow. This panel will analyze roadblocks to transforming education as we know it.

Social Media Training. Lunch will feature an exclusive workshop with a leading social media expert, who will offer tips and strategies for effectively communicating your policy message on Facebook, Twitter, and other social media platforms.

If you can't make the summer event, we will be hosting our Winter Emerging Issues Forum on December 15–17 in Orlando, Florida. For more information about The Heartland Institute and the Emerging Issues Forum, or if you have any questions about sponsorship opportunities, please do not hesitate to contact Lindsey Stroud at 312/377-4000 or by email at lstroud@heartland.org

The Heartland Institute is a 32-year-old national nonprofit organization based in Chicago.
Its mission is to discover, develop, and promote free-market solutions to social and economic problems.
For more information, visit our Web site at heartland.org or call 312/377-4000.

The Heartland Institute, 3939 North Wilke Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60004
Phone: 312/377-4000, Fax: 312/377-5000
www.heartland.org

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From: Peter McCloud
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2016 5:13 PM
To: Rep88
Subject: Legislative Aide Position
Attachments: PeterMcCloudResume.pdf

Dear Representative Reineke,

My name is Peter McCloud and I am writing you to inquire if you have any Legislative Aide positions available with your office. I've recently graduated from Ohio State with a degree in Political Science and currently work part time at Americans for Prosperity doing conservative grassroots work. I am a lifelong Republican with internship experience with Senator Rob Portman and Rep. Pat Tiberi. I would very much like to join your staff and have attached my resume. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Peter McCloud

PETER R. McCloud

969 Perry Street Apartment 301 Columbus, OH 43215 • 614-582-8573 • Peter.McCloud15@gmail.com

EDUCATION	The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio • Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, specialization in American Politics	May 10, 2015
WORK EXPERIENCE	Field Associate, Columbus, Ohio Americans For Prosperity Foundation • Economic Policy Advocacy: phone banking and canvassing to general public regarding conservative economic principles. Using i360 canvassing application to manage all communications with the general public • Developed and managed Social Media marketing channels for Columbus Ohio branch. Launched Twitter account, including designing Twitter header and managed day-to-day social media outreach. @ColumbusAFP • Coordinate and participate in monthly Day of Action, where Columbus AFP works with volunteers to promote Economic Policy	December 2015 - Present
	Server, Columbus, Ohio The Winking Lizard Tavern, Columbus, Ohio • Server: responsible for Guests, tables, clean work environment with strong multi-tasking skills • Detailed knowledge of Craft Beer	September 2012 - Present
	Campaign Intern, Columbus, Ohio Senator Rob Portman • Grassroots Campaign Outreach: phone banking and canvassing to general public regarding 2016 Senate election • Coordinate and participate in events for the Senator including events at Ohio State University	May 2015 - December 2015
	Legislative Intern, Washington, D.C. Congressman Patrick J. Tiberi, 12 th District Ohio • Constituent Services • Capitol tour guide • Email, phone, file management	June 2011 - August 2011
	Leadership Institute, Arlington, Virginia Youth Leadership School • Two day "Political Bootcamp" • Campaign coordination • Earned media, public relations	July 2011
	Soccer Referee, Columbus, Ohio Mid Ohio Select Soccer League • U.S. Soccer Federation Certified, Grade 8	Spring 2003 - Spring 2012
TECHNOLOGY SKILLS	i360 Calls and Walk, MS Excel, Word, PowerPoint, MS Access, Windows and Mac OS, Social Media Applications, Google Apps	
REFERENCES	Available upon request	
WEBSITE	https://www.linkedin.com/in/peter-mccloud-222385b	

From: Heartland Institute: The Government Relations Team

Sent: Monday, June 20, 2016 4:26 PM

To: Rep88

Subject: Emerging Issues Forum in Chicago!

Emerging Issues Forum 2016

Emerging Issues Forum in Chicago! August 7-8, 2016

A limited number of travel scholarships are available!

You are invited to join The Heartland Institute in Chicago at the first of two 2016 Emerging Issues Forums (EIF) on Sunday, August 7, 2016, through Monday, August 8. The Emerging Issues Forum brings together elected officials, policy analysts, and government affairs professionals from across the country. You will hear from leading free-market experts as they explore innovative solutions to the top public policy issues that face the states in 2016 and beyond.

A limited number of scholarships to cover expenses for travel and accommodations, up to \$350, are available for members of Heartland's Legislative Forum. We offer a two-year membership for \$99 and a lifetime membership for \$179, so membership easily pays for itself! Not a member yet? Join today!

Prominent free-market policy experts featured at the event will address and explore solutions to top policy issues as we move to 2017. Policy areas will include education, energy and environment, health care, and taxes and the economy.

Some of the great local and national speakers for the event include Cato Institute Senior Fellow Michael Tanner, Optenative Chief Executive Officer Aaron Dallek, Oklahoma state Rep. Mike Ritze (R-Tulsa County), Tax Foundation Vice President of Legal and State Projects Joe Henchman, National Taxpayers Union Executive Vice President Brandon Arnold, Tennessee state Sen. Mark Green (R-Stewart County), Goldwater Institute Education Director Jonathan Butcher, Heritage Foundation Will Skillman, Fellow in Education Lindsey Burke, Illinois State Rep. John Anthony (R- Grundy County), Texas Public Policy Foundation Director of the Armstrong Center for Energy and the Environment Kathleen Hartnett-White, Heartland Institute Research Fellow Isaac Orr, and Kansas State Rep. Dennis Hedke (R-Butler County).

The Emerging Issues Forum will kick off with a VIP cocktail reception on the evening of Sunday, August 7, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Chicago Downtown. The policy sessions will take place the following day, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the same location.

Register today for the Emerging Issues Forum, where you'll hear about some of the most important emerging issues in public policy, including:

Health Care. The panel will discuss how states can expand competition and reduce the cost of health care - even with the Affordable Care Act in place. Solutions that will be discussed include using telemedicine, rolling back certificate of need laws, and embracing direct primary care. The panel will also address Medicaid expansion.

Energy & Environment. America has become a leader in energy production despite President Barack Obama's efforts to discourage the use of traditional energy sources, such as coal, natural gas, and oil. This panel will discuss the rise of hydraulic fracturing, demise of renewable power mandates, and other pro-environment, pro-energy, and pro-jobs solutions.

Budget & Taxes. States are seeking ways to create a better business climate to attract jobs and businesses to their states. Some states have been passing right-to-work laws, pushing tax reform, and reforming their public pension systems, while others have increased taxes and regulations. This panel will discuss which policies are working and which are not.

Education. Education outcomes in America continue to lag globally; the debate over Common Core State Standards remains heated; and educational choice options such as education savings accounts and charter schools continue to grow. This panel will analyze roadblocks to transforming education and will explore ways to improve access to a quality education.

Social Media Workshop. Lunch will feature an exclusive workshop with a leading social media expert. This workshop will offer tips and strategies for effectively communicating your policy message on Facebook, Twitter, and on other social media platforms.

For more information about The Heartland Institute or to reserve your place at the Emerging Issues Forum, contact MaryAnn McCabe at 312/377-4000 or email MMB@heartland.org.

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Heartland Institute: The Government Relations Team | nmakla@heartland.org |

Heartland Institute | 3939 North Wilke Road | Arlington Heights, IL 60004

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From: Lindsey Stroud
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 2:54 PM
To: Rep88
Subject: Join us for The Heartland Institute's Emerging Issues Call Series

Emerging Issues Forum 2016

Please join us for The Heartland Institute's Emerging Issues Call Series

Topic: Budget & Tax Policy with Brandon Arnold Executive Vice President of the National Taxpayers Union

Thursday, June 30 at 3:00 PM EST

You are invited to join The Heartland Institute for the second in a series of conference calls previewing the speakers and topics that will be presented at Heartland's 2016 Emerging Issues Forums. Those events – which are free for lawmakers and staff – will take place on August, 7–8, 2016 in Chicago, Illinois and on December 15–17 in Orlando, Florida.

This month's conference call will feature Brandon Arnold, Executive Vice President of the National Taxpayer Union.

Brandon has testified on fiscal policy before Congress and numerous state legislative committees. He has also appeared on several television and radio networks including C-SPAN, Fox News, Fox Business, BNN, and Russia Today. His writings have appeared in publications including Politico, the American Spectator, the Hill, and the Seattle Times.

Brandon will be discussing ways states are seeking to create a better business climate to attract jobs and businesses to their states. Some states have been passing right-to-work laws, pushing tax reform, and reforming their public pension systems, while others have increased taxes and regulations.

Here are references to review before joining the conference call:

State Should Switch to 401(k) Style Plans

NTU Joins Coalition Opposed to Hidden Medicare "Tax"

Ten Station Solutions - Budget & Tax

Research & Commentary: Do Right-to-Work Laws Cause Income Inequality?

The monthly emerging issues conference call is sponsored by The Heartland Institute's government relations department, which works to educate lawmakers on free-market solutions to social and economic problems.

Thank you to those who have already sent RSVPs. To register for this call, please contact Lindsey Stroud at lstroud@heartland.org or 312/377-4000. Your registration will ensure you receive any follow-up materials from the call.

Attendees can join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/631865941>

Access Code: 631-865-941

You can also dial in using your phone.

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From: Heartland Institute: The Government Relations Team

Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 4:09 PM

To: Rep88

Subject: Reminder: Join Us Tomorrow for The Heartland Institute's Emerging Issues Call Series

Emerging Issues Forum 2016

Please join us for The Heartland Institute's Emerging Issues Call Series

Topic: Budget & Tax Policy with Brandon Arnold Executive Vice President of the National Taxpayers Union

Thursday, June 30 at 3:00 PM EST

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Access Code: 631-865-941

You can also dial in using your phone.

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Sent: Friday, July 1, 2016 8:22 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: Gongwer News Service Ohio Media Clips



GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Ohio News & Opinion For July 1, 2016

News

New attorneys' fees in Ohio to fund legal aid for poor (Associated Press, 7/1/2016)

How will medical marijuana affect your workplace? (Cincinnati Enquirer, 7/1/2016)

Joe Biden talks health care, praises doctors in Cleveland (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/1/2016)

Obamacare tax hike scheduled to hit retirees next year, but Sens. Brown, Portman want to stop it (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/1/2016)

Rep. John Becker proposes right-to-work bill for public employees (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/1/2016)

Republican National Convention secure zone revealed: Ohio Politics Roundup (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/1/2016)

Rob Portman's campaign, PAC each announce new ads targeting Ted Strickland (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/1/2016)

Sen. Tim Kaine accepted clothes, vacation as gifts: Today's number in politics (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/1/2016)

Senate panel advances Carole Rendon's nomination for U.S. attorney of Ohio's northern district (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/1/2016)

Voting rights activists say election lawsuit claiming Jon Husted illegally purged voters is not over (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/1/2016)

Controversial NRA ad attacking Clinton airing mostly in Ohio (Columbus Dispatch, 7/1/2016)

Ohio Politics Now: Will Hillary Clinton consider Richard Cordray as a running mate? (Columbus Dispatch, 7/1/2016)

Portman coal radio ad targets southern Ohio voters (Columbus Dispatch, 7/1/2016)

State, troopers union return to contract talks (Columbus Dispatch, 7/1/2016)

GOP Convention: Who's going to speak? Where are the sponsors? (Dayton Daily News, 7/1/2016)

Local hospitals among hundreds with multiple privacy complaints (Dayton Daily News, 7/1/2016)

Taxpayers shelling out fewer dollars for fireworks displays (Dayton Daily News, 7/1/2016)

Editorials

Commentary: The Supreme Court's Texas abortion ruling reignites a battle over facts (Canton Repository, 7/1/2016)

Six ways to make Ohio's online charter schools more accountable: editorial board (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/1/2016)

Perpetuating preferences (Columbus Dispatch, 7/1/2016)

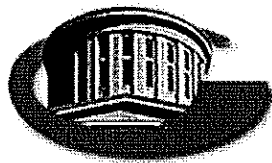
Put babies over politics (Toledo Blade, 7/1/2016)

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From: Gongwer News Service
Sent: Tuesday, July 5, 2016 8:35 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: Gongwer News Service Ohio Media Clips



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Ohio News & Opinion For July 5, 2016

News

Ohio usually a swing state, nearly always a bellwether (Associated Press, 7/5/2016)

Ohio's new schools superintendent gets on the job, looking for input from educators (Canton Repository, 7/5/2016)

Portman, Strickland focus on Ohio's drug crisis in Senate campaigns (Canton Repository, 7/5/2016)

Ad Watch: NRA says Strickland 'sold out' (Cincinnati Enquirer, 7/5/2016)

Becker introduces public right-to-work bill (Cincinnati Enquirer, 7/5/2016)

Trump announces visit to Sharonville Convention Center (Cincinnati Enquirer, 7/5/2016)

'Raise Up Cleveland' continues \$15 minimum wage campaign, despite attorney general's opinion: Ohio Politics Roundup (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/5/2016)

No statewide ballot measures planned for Ohio's November election (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/5/2016)

Prospective new political parties in Ohio face filing deadline: What to watch for Tuesday (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/5/2016)

Republican National Convention secure zone revealed: Ohio Politics Roundup (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/5/2016)

Capitol Insider: Even after Kasich's campaign, state says it can't tally, release security bill (Columbus Dispatch, 7/5/2016)

Capitol Insider: Who in Ohio Democratic Party helped John Raphael? (Columbus Dispatch, 7/5/2016)

Dispute over school funding embroils new federal education law (Columbus Dispatch, 7/5/2016)

Medicaid tax change to cost Ohio, counties (Columbus Dispatch, 7/5/2016)

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Portman, Strickland focus on Ohio's drug crisis in Senate campaigns (Columbus Dispatch, 7/5/2016)

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GOP Convention: Who's going to speak? Where are the sponsors? (Dayton Daily News, 7/5/2016)

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Voters want to rein in government (Columbus Dispatch, 7/5/2016)

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From: Gongwer News Service
Sent: Tuesday, July 5, 2016 6:14 PM
To: Rep88
Subject: Ohio Report, Tuesday, July 5, 2016
Attachments: Jul5.htm; Jul5Senate.htm; 160705dayplan.htm



GONGWER Ohio
The Record of Capitol Square Since 1906

Ohio Report for Tuesday, July 5, 2016

Supreme Court To Hear Second Traffic Camera Case; City Of Springfield Argues Home Rule Hangs In The Balance

After NEOCH Decision, Seitz Suggests Lawmakers Implement Photo ID Requirements For Voting

Legislation Aligns Health Assessments For Hospitals, Public Health Districts In Effort To Improve Population Health Planning

Ohio's Competitive Marketplace Driving Lower-Than-Average Policy Rates, Insurance Leaders Say

Clinton To Open Ohio Campaign Offices, Leads Trump In Latest Fundraising Numbers

Politics Notebook: FBI Recommends No Charge Over Clinton Emails; ODP Blasts Latest Right-To Work Attempt; Advocates Press Kasich For Action On Hunger...

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Volume #85, Report #128 -- Tuesday, July 5, 2016

Supreme Court To Hear Second Traffic Camera Case; City Of Springfield Argues Home Rule Hangs In The Balance

The state's high court has agreed to take up a second challenge to a law that has all but eliminated the use of traffic cameras by municipalities.

The Ohio Supreme Court will hear arguments from the city of Springfield that a measure (SB342, 130th General Assembly) that requires a police officer to be present where traffic cameras are operating violates home rule and is not a general law.

In its memorandum in support of jurisdiction, the city called the law "a thinly veiled attempt to destroy local traffic-camera programs."

The city, which established its traffic camera program in 2005 at 10 intersections with high crash rates, sued over the law in Clark County Common Pleas Court but lost. It then took its case to the Second District Court of Appeals, where it again was unsuccessful.

The city now argues that if the appellate court decision is upheld, it could cripple the concept of home rule throughout the state.

"The Second District's decision erroneously reduces municipal authority and would return cities and villages to the position they were in before the people of the state of Ohio changed their constitution in 1912," the city wrote.

The city also makes the case that a "state statute with the principal purpose and effect of limiting municipal authority is not a general law to which municipal ordinances must yield."

"The Legislative Service Commission told the General Assembly that a single section of the bill, the section requiring a police officer to be present at the camera site, would cost municipalities \$73 million. The police officer sitting at the intersection has no role in the photo-enforcement process," the city wrote. "Inexplicably, SB342 requires that the officer sitting idly at a camera site must be a full-time officer. These provisions serve only one purpose - to burden photo-enforcement programs with excessive costs so that cities and villages will abandon them."

The court declined to take up a third proposition of law on whether a municipality has standing to seek a declaratory judgment declaring a state statute to be an unconstitutional incursion of its power of local self-government even where the statute does not conflict with a municipal ordinance.

In an amicus brief filed with the court in support of jurisdiction, the Ohio Municipal League and the city of Dayton, which is engaged in its own litigation over the law, also make the case that the concept of home rule is at stake. The city of Toledo has also filed an amicus brief in support of jurisdiction in the case.

"This matter extends well beyond a municipality's ability to adopt and enforce automatic traffic enforcement programs," the Dayton and OML filing states. "If the Second District's decision stands, it would give the General Assembly authority to legislatively eliminate constitutionally-provided home rule powers, specifically, those powers that are purely local."

The state, however, in its memorandum in response to jurisdiction called the lawsuit "a companion to the attack on the state's comprehensive regulation of traffic cameras."

"Like Dayton, its arguments rest on exaggerated conceptions of its home rule authority and distorted views of S.B. 342," the attorney general's office writes.

The state also deemed both lawsuits to be "quixotic attempts to redefine the court's teachings on police power regulations and standing."

After NEOCH Decision, Seitz Suggests Lawmakers Implement Photo ID Requirements For Voting

Following a federal judge's decision that struck down three provisions contained in election-related legislation that he says placed undue burdens on certain voters, one GOP lawmaker said it may be time to go with a "more rigorous" identification requirement blessed by the nation's high court.

One of the provision struck down required voters accurately complete all five fields on the provisional ballot affirmation and absentee identification envelope before their ballots could be counted, which Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) said in an interview were for identification purposes.

Since that has been deemed unconstitutional, Sen. Seitz said lawmakers may have no choice but to go the voter ID route.

"This constant meddling in our state election laws ultimately means that you have to resort to something the Supreme Court has already blessed," he said. "I suppose you leave us no choice but to go the photo ID route."

Sen. Seitz said the identification measure struck down was designed to prevent voter fraud. He said the federal government refuses to tell the secretary of state's office if a Social Security number corresponds to an illegal alien.

"We have precious little protection against voting by illegal aliens," he said.

But Rep. Kathleen Clyde (D-Kent) said requiring state-issued IDs to cast ballots will be a waste of taxpayer dollars.

"This is more bluster and bullying of Ohio's voters from Senator Seitz, who has been deeply involved with most of the anti-voter legislation that the courts have thrown out over the last several years," she said. "Photo-only voter ID legislation is wrong for Ohio. It's not necessary, it's discriminatory, and it would cost the state and voters millions of dollars to implement."

U.S. District Court Judge Algenon L. Marbley's ruling, which struck down two other provisions in election-related legislation passed during the previous General Assembly, is being appealed. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 8, 2016)

Along with throwing out the provisional ballot requirements, the judge delivered a harsh critique of voting law trends in Ohio over the last several years, saying "the Republican-controlled General Assembly's frenetic pace of introducing such legislation reflects questionable motives, given the wealth of other problems facing the state which actually needed solutions."

"If the dog whistles in the General Assembly continue to get louder, courts considering future challenges to voting restrictions in Ohio may very well find that intentional discrimination is afoot," he wrote.

Sen. Setiz, however, said he and his colleague do not have any intention to put a moratorium on election-related legislation.

"Please be assured we are not going to be delinquent in doing our duty to the people of Ohio," he said.

He also denied there was a racial motivation behind the legislation, noting that another federal court judge found the provision to be constitutional.

"This is just another example of the double-standard that activist judges who might be better suited to be legislators are following in their zeal to do the will of the Ohio Democratic Party," he said.

Josh Eck, spokesman for Secretary of State Jon Husted, said the appeals process should be allowed to play out.

"Secretary Husted certainly understands Senator Seitz's frustration with the federal court's intrusion into Ohio's elections, which is why he has appealed the ruling," he said. "Once the appeal is decided and the 2016 election is over, we can calmly assess what law changes will be necessary to ensure a balance in our election system where it is both easy to vote and hard to cheat."

Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Avon) recently took to the Senate floor to call on his colleagues to pass an updated version of the Voting Rights Act. During his speech, he commented

on Judge Marbley's ruling and railed again voting "laws passed by an ultra-conservative state legislature in Columbus."

"We're the only advanced democracy in the world where there's actually efforts to restrict access to the ballot box," he said.

A voter ID bill has already been introduced this General Assembly. The measure (HB 189), put forth by Rep. Andrew Brenner (R-Powell), has yet to receive a committee hearing.

Legislation Aligns Health Assessments For Hospitals, Public Health Districts In Effort To Improve Population Health Planning

Nonprofit hospitals and local health districts will have to complete health assessments along the same three-year cycles starting next year, according to legislation signed recently by Gov. John Kasich.

The requirement was part of a broader budget update bill (HB 390) the governor signed Tuesday. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 28, 2016)

Aligning the assessment periods is designed to make it easier for hospitals and their local public health officials to work together on setting priorities, according to the Governor's Office of Health Transformation.

Hospitals have already been conducting their health assessments in three-year cycles, but local health districts have been doing so on five-year cycles. The change eliminates one of the barriers to cooperation between hospitals and local health districts, said Beth Bickford, executive director of the Association of Ohio Health Commissioners.

"The whole idea is to encourage hospitals and local health departments, both of which have requirements in this regard, to try to work more closely together and to get their planning aligned so hopefully they can feed off each other's work and get some synergy in communities to achieve their health outcomes," she said in an interview.

"It is a bit of a daunting task to completely solve the problem, but I think this effort to set the three-year interval is an effort to try to at least align things from a timing perspective," she added.

There are other hurdles that hinder cooperation, she said, including geography. Hospitals and health districts don't always serve the same areas.

John Palmer, a spokesman for the Ohio Hospital Association, said hospitals already work with health districts on community health assessments, but the change will make that cooperation even easier.

"This new provision will strengthen involvement and support collaboration for our members and their partners that will benefit Ohioans and our communities," he said in an email.

One concern for local public health officials is the added cost and effort of producing the assessments every three years as opposed to every five, Ms. Bickford said.

"They're concerned about taxing their community partners with a process that is a time investment," she said. "There's a fair amount of concern about the extra time, money and asking others to commit their time as well to have it done more frequently."

The assessments look at a number of health factors affecting their communities, including rates of smoking, chronic conditions, risk factors and infectious diseases, Ms. Bickford said. Getting better information and coordinating efforts more will improve the picture health officials have of their communities' concerns.

"We can do a better job of seeing whether or not we're moving the needle on some of these health indicators," she said.

The change is also part of a broader state goal of aligning health assessments and planning to affect overall population health outcomes, according to a presentation by OHT. That broader goal includes a state health assessment, a draft of which was released last week (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 27, 2016), and a state health improvement plan slated for the fall.

Ohio's Competitive Marketplace Driving Lower-Than-Average Policy Rates, Insurance Leaders Say

Ohio's insurance marketplace is among the largest in the country and a plethora of companies call the state home - both factors that play a part in residents paying lower-than-average rates for casualty and property policies, according to the Department of Insurance.

Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor, who also serves as director of ODI, pointed to a recently released 2015 market share report of state-licensed property and casualty groups as proof that Ohio's policies continue to drive low insurance rates and make the state a preferable place to do business

"We are focused on protecting consumers and fostering a competitive marketplace that is efficiently regulated," she said in a statement. "Positive results are being realized on multiple fronts."

There are nearly 1,000 property and casualty companies in the state's marketplace and about 140 of those are headquartered in Ohio, she said in an ODI release. State Farm, which is headquartered in Indiana, has the largest market share, holding 12.6% of all policies.

Meanwhile, Columbus-based Nationwide and Illinois-based Allstate are tied for second place at 6.7% and Progressive, which is headquartered in Mayfield, had the fourth largest market share, the report shows.

Dean Fadel, vice president of government relations for the Ohio Insurance Institute, said the market share report findings are "another demonstration of the competitive nature of the environment" that has been fostered in the state.

"We have the third most companies in the nation vying for Ohio consumers which is translated to us getting below national average rates on homeowners and auto insurance," he said in an interview. "I think when you factor in the urbanization and the traffic in Ohio, we arguably have the lowest rates in the nation."

"It's a marketplace where companies are allowed to compete, they're allowed to use within the regulatory schemes the most modernized ways of providing the product and we don't have a lot of insolvencies," Mr. Fadel added.

Ohio's average auto and homeowners premiums are \$515 below the national averages, according to a 2013 National Association of Insurance Commissioners analysis. Residents paid an average of \$763 for homeowners insurance and \$659 for auto insurance.

Employment opportunities have also been positively impacted by the state's thriving insurance industry, Ms. Taylor said.

Since 2011, she has led the charge to fill a projected 26,000 new insurance jobs by 2020 through an administration initiative called Insuring Ohio Futures. The effort includes partnerships between higher education institutions and industry leaders to create education and career pathways.

As a result, ODI reported that nine Ohio colleges and universities now offer insurance and risk management programs including bachelor, associate degrees short-term certification programs.

"We have been able to transform the landscape in just a few short years," Ms. Taylor said. "Educational programs exist that are ready to help Ohioans of all ages prepare for and claim good paying insurance jobs."

There are currently about 100,000 Ohioans working in the industry, earning the state the designation of having the seventh highest number of insurance employees in the country, according to an OII analysis. About one-third of those careers are in the property/casualty insurance field that the institute represents.

In total, more than 230 insurance companies in all segments of the industry call Ohio home, the institute reported.

Clinton To Open Ohio Campaign Offices, Leads Trump In Latest Fundraising Numbers

Hillary Clinton out fundraised opponent Donald Trump in the Buckeye State nearly eight-to-one for the month of May - even after the GOP field narrowed and the billionaire solidified himself as the last Republican standing.

Building on that momentum, Ms. Clinton's campaign announced Friday the campaign took in another \$40 million during June and said Tuesday that it will open 11 new offices across the state of Ohio in the coming week.

Those include offices in Cleveland, Toledo and Woodland, with phone banks to be established in Boardman, Canton, Cleveland, Columbus, Hilliard and Trotwood. The campaign will also host a fundraiser in Lebanon and an organizing event in Delaware this week.

Mr. Trump's campaign, however, has been fairly quiet in Ohio, other than the recent hire of state campaign manager Bob Paduchik. The candidate visited the state for the first time post-primary last week. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 29, 2016)

Gov. John Kasich withdrew from the race May 4, clearing the way for Mr. Trump to focus on fundraising and other general election prep rather than seizing delegates. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 26, 2016)

But the latest Federal Election Commission filings from each campaign show that Ms. Clinton, who for much of May was battling Sen. Bernie Sanders for the Democratic nomination, raised \$153,447.22 from Ohioans between May 1-31. During that same time period Mr. Trump raised \$18,722.89 in the state.

Released last week, the numbers already showed that Mr. Trump and Ms. Clinton trailed their primary opponents in fundraising from Ohio donors. Sen. Sanders for example raised \$158,768 in Ohio while Sen. Ted Cruz led the Republican side despite his May 3 withdrawal. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 21, 2016)

As both campaigns shift toward the general election, however, the numbers highlight the breadth of Ms. Clinton's fundraising infrastructure compared to that of Mr. Trump's. The candidates entered June - their first full month as the presumptive nominees of their respective parties - with \$42.46 million in cash on hand for the Clinton campaign and nearly \$1.29 million in cash on hand for the Trump campaign.

Of the 57 states or territories in which both candidates received donations in May, Ms. Clinton raised more money by far in all of those areas. Her filing shows the former secretary of state raised nearly \$15.04 million from 64 territories or states, while Mr. Trump raised \$1.01 million from 56 states or territories along with a \$250 donation from a foreign country.

Ms. Clinton even outperformed Mr. Trump in right-leaning states - such as Texas, in which Ms. Clinton hauled in \$1.4 million compared to Mr. Trump's \$122,251. In their home state of New York, where Ms. Clinton was a U.S. Senator, that trend continued with Ms. Clinton earning nearly \$1.87 million compared to Mr. Trump's \$52,697.

In Ohio, Mr. Trump received donations from 25 counties in May - the largest of which were \$5,150 from Franklin County and \$2,700 each from supporters in Lorain and Miami counties. By comparison, Ms. Clinton earned donors in 76 Ohio counties, with the largest donations coming from urban areas - including \$35,818 from Cuyahoga County, \$29,038 from Hamilton County, and \$27,499 from Franklin County.

In response, the Trump campaign launched a fundraising blitz last week leading up to the second quarter FEC filing deadline of June 30th.

The campaign set a goal of raising \$10 million by the deadline, with the candidate's son, Eric Trump, telling supporters via email, "The truth is we did better than \$11 million and no amount of spin from Crooked Hillary's machine can change that fact."

The Clinton campaign, meanwhile, claims to have raised more than \$40 million during the month of June, with an additional \$28 million raised for the Democratic National Committee and state parties.

"Our first month of general election fundraising proved to be the best of the campaign," Campaign Manager Robby Mook said in a statement. "Thanks to the continued support of nearly 1.6 million people, we have been able to help Democrats build out an organizing infrastructure across the country that will mobilize millions of voters and help elect progressive candidates up and down the ballot."

The campaigns' second quarter filings, due July 15, will further show whether that funding gap persists.

Part of the contrast so far is thanks to Mr. Trump's limited fundraising efforts during the primary season. Although the campaign has accepted donations since it launched last year, it has mostly subsisted on loans from Mr. Trump to the campaign. The June filing shows the campaign has received \$45.7 million in loans from or guaranteed by the candidate during the election cycle.

Gov. Kasich, meanwhile, continues to try to aid down-ballot Republicans, including ally U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park). (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 29, 2016)

A Tuesday email from Kasich's suspended campaign - the second such missive in as many weeks from Kasich for America - highlighted several recent media reports showcasing "Kasich's efforts to help our party maintain the majority in the U.S. Senate and also about Gov. Kasich's ongoing popularity in national polls."

Politics Notebook: FBI Recommends No Charge Over Clinton Emails; ODP Blasts Latest Right-To Work Attempt; Advocates Press Kasich For Action On Hunger...

FBI Director James Comey said Tuesday he is recommending Hillary Clinton not be charged for her handling of classified information via a personal email server while serving as secretary of state.

Still, he strongly chastised the Democratic presumptive nominee and her staff for being "extremely careless" in her handling of sensitive information.

"Although we did not find clear evidence that Secretary Clinton or her colleagues intended to violate laws governing the handling of classified information, there is evidence that they were extremely careless in their handling of very sensitive, highly classified information."

Of the 30,000 emails provided by Ms. Clinton and the State Department in December 2014, the FBI determined 100 emails in 52 email chains contained classified information at the time they were sent or received. Eight of those contained information that was "Top Secret" when sent, 36 contained information that was marked "Secret," and eight contained "Confidential" information.

Director Comey said there were several examples of email communication regarding Top Secret/Special Access Program level information and that it is reasonable for a person in Ms. Clinton's position or her staff to "have known that an unclassified system was no place for that conversation."

Mr. Comey said his recommendation to the Department of Justice, which has the final determination on the matter, was based on a lack of willful intent to violate statute and was reached in "an entirely apolitical and professional way."

"In looking back at our investigations into mishandling or removal of classified information, we cannot find a case that would support bringing criminal charges on these facts," he said. "All the cases prosecuted involved some combination of: clearly intentional and willful mishandling of classified information; or vast quantities of materials exposed in such a way as to support an inference of intentional misconduct; or indications of disloyalty to the United States; or efforts to obstruct justice. We do not see those things here."

A Clinton spokesman said, "We are glad that this matter is now resolved," adding that Ms. Clinton has "long said it was a mistake to use her personal email and she would not do it again."

Republicans at all levels were quick to criticize the FBI's recommendation, with Ohio Republican Party Chairman Matt Borges calling the findings "a clear indictment on Hillary Clinton's lack of preparedness and judgment to be commander-in-chief."

"This wouldn't have been an issue had Hillary Clinton followed the law like everybody else and used a State Department account," Mr. Borges said. "Instead, Hillary Clinton set up an email system less secure than Gmail for herself to evade the rules because she didn't want people to know what she was doing."

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton likewise criticized the FBI.

"Frankly, there's a disconnect between Comey's devastating findings and his weak recommendation not to prosecute Hillary Clinton," Mr. Fitton said. "Federal prosecutors, independent of politics, need to consider whether to pursue the potential violations of law confirmed by the FBI."

Right to Work: Rep. John Becker (R-Union Twp.) on Friday introduced a bill to make Ohio a right-to-work state, triggering an immediate reaction from state Democrats.

Critics compared the measure (HB 583) to a previous bill that that passed in 2011 only to be overwhelmingly overturned by voters (SB5, 129th General Assembly). Since then, Gov. John Kasich has repeatedly said right-to-work legislation is not on his agenda.

The latest bill would remove any requirement under collective bargaining law that public employees must join or pay dues to any employee organization.

Carolyn Best, spokeswoman for Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville), said a decision about where the bill is headed has yet to be made.

"Since the bill was just introduced last week, the Speaker has not yet had a chance to fully review the legislation. When committee and House session resume in the fall, the caucus will discuss the bill further," she said.

Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper called the bill a "sneak attack on Ohio's working families for the lame duck session."

"Ohio Democrats strongly oppose this ideological attack on Ohio's working families, which will drive down wages, benefits and overall living standards for all Ohio worker," Mr. Pepper said. "It's time for real leadership in Ohio, and it's time for Gov. John Kasich to state unequivocally that he will veto any 'right to work' bill that is sent to his desk."

Hunger: Advocates are continuing to lobby Gov. John Kasich to request full federal food assistance for eligible counties and communities.

The call follows a recent Policy Matters Ohio report that examines communities eligible for a federal waiver of time limits in 2017. The deadline for the waiver request is this summer.

But the state has not submitted such requests in the last three years, prompting Policy Matters and others to urge Gov. Kasich to action.

"The failure to request a waiver of time limits in all eligible areas has hurt people in urban areas like Cleveland, but also in rural places, like Vinton County," PMO Senior Project Director Wendy Patton said. "We again call on the Kasich administration to maximize its use of federal resources so that hungry Ohioans can meet their most basic need - food."

Joining in the call were the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio, the Universal Health Care Action Network of Ohio, the Ohio Association of Foodbanks, the Ohio Poverty Law Center, and the Ohio Council of Churches.

U.S. Senate Race: The campaign of U.S. Sen. Rob Portman launched a \$1 million statewide TV ad campaign aimed at highlighting the Terrace Park Republican's record of "standing up to China and fighting for Ohio Workers."

China and trade have been a sticking point between the incumbent and Democratic challenger and former Gov. Ted Strickland, with both throwing continued barbs at their rival's record on the topic.

The latest ad, called "Steel," focuses on Burke Byer of Cincinnati's Byer Steel as he describes an unfair playing field between American and Chinese workers.

"Our new ad highlights Rob's long record of fighting for Ohio manufacturers and workers like those at Cincinnati's Byer Steel," Portman spokeswoman Michawn Rich said. "Rob is the only candidate in this race with a record of standing up to China. Rob is leading the fight to stop China's currency manipulation and level the playing field on trade so Ohio workers can compete and win."

Supplemental Agency Calendar

No agency meetings scheduled.

Supplemental Event Planner

No events scheduled.

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Senate Activity for Tuesday, July 5, 2016

INTRODUCED

SCR 22 ■ **FIREARMS (Yuko, K.)** To urge Congress to enact legislation denying firearms and explosives to suspected terrorists.

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Columbus Ohio 43215

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Daily Activity Planner for Wednesday, July 6

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 E. Broad St., 11th Fl., Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

Event Planner

Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon) fundraiser, Historic Parlor and Conservatory, 348 Mentor Avenue, Painesville, 5 p.m., (Event Host: \$1000; Couple: \$150, Individual: \$100 to Friends of John Eklund)

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From: Heartland Institute: MaryAnn McCabe

Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2016 5:19 PM

To: Rep88

Subject: Only Four Travel Scholarships Remain for Heartland's Chicago Emerging Issues Forum!

Emerging Issues Forum 2016

Only One Month Until the Emerging Issues Forum in Chicago!

A limited number of travel scholarships are available!

You are invited to join The Heartland Institute in Chicago at its 2016 Summer Emerging Issues Forums (EIF). It will be held on August 7–8. Heartland's Emerging Issues Forums bring together elected officials, policy analysts, and government affairs professionals from across the country. Prominent free-market policy experts featured at the event will address and explore solutions to the nation's top policy issues as we move into 2017. Policy areas will include education, energy and environment, health care, and taxes and the economy.

Registration is free for elected officials and staff, and a limited number of travel scholarships and hotel rooms are available to members of Heartland's Legislative Forum. We offer a two-year membership for \$99 and a lifetime membership for \$179, so membership easily pays for itself! Not a member yet? [Register here.](#)

In addition to our current list of nationally renowned panelist speakers, we are excited to announce Rachel Campos-Duffy will be the keynote speaker at the event! Rachel is a parenting expert, author, blogger, political pundit, and television personality. She got her television start on the granddaddy of reality shows: MTV's *The Real World*.

For the past 14 years, Campos-Duffy has been a recurring guest host on ABC's *The View*, appearing more than 25 times, and she writes frequently for *The Today Show* blog, TodayMoms.com. Campos-Duffy has also been published by *National Review Online*, *The Huffington Post*, *The American Spectator*, Catholicvote.org, and NBCLatino.com, among others.

Currently, Campos-Duffy is the national spokesperson for The Libre Initiative, an organization that educates and advocates for the economic empowerment of Hispanics through limited government, entrepreneurship, and self-reliance. She lives in Wisconsin with her husband, congressman Sean Duffy, and her eight kids.

In addition to featuring some outstanding speakers, the EIF event will also have a social media workshop with Gabriella Hoffman. Hoffman is a young conservative blogger and political operative. She has worked for numerous organizations, including Media Research Center and the Leadership Institute. Her articles regularly appear in *Erick Erickson's* *The Resurgent*, *Townhall.com*, and *The Washington Times*. She has been interviewed by *FoxNews.com*, *Marie Claire*, *The Dan Patrick Show* on The Blaze Radio, and she is a frequent guest on NRA News' *Cam and Company Show*.

Hoffman currently boasts 39,000 followers on Twitter and blogs at TheGabriellaHoffman.com. Her workshop will offer tips and strategies for effectively communicating your policy message on Facebook, Twitter, and on other social media platforms. He will also show lawmakers how to grow their following, share what to do and what not to do on social media, as well as provide some great social media resources. This is a must-attend session for any lawmaker communicating in our social-media-centric society.

Register today for the Emerging Issues Forum, where you'll hear about some of the most important emerging issues in public policy, including:

Health Care. The panel will discuss how states can expand competition and reduce the cost of health care – even with the Affordable Care Act in place. Solutions that will be discussed include using telemedicine, rolling back certificate of need laws, and embracing direct primary care. The panel will also address Medicaid expansion.

Energy & Environment. America has become a leader in energy production despite President Barack Obama's efforts to discourage the use of traditional energy sources, such as coal, natural gas, and oil. This panel will discuss the rise of hydraulic fracturing, demise of renewable power mandates, and other pro-environment, pro-energy, and pro-jobs solutions.

Budget & Taxes. States are seeking ways to create a better business climate to attract jobs and businesses to their states. Some states have been passing right-to-work laws, pushing tax reform, and reforming their public pension systems, while others have increased taxes and regulations. This panel will discuss which policies are working and which are not.

Education. Education outcomes in America continue to lag globally; the debate over Common Core State Standards remains heated; and educational choice options such as education savings accounts and charter schools continue to grow. This panel will analyze roadblocks to transforming education and will explore ways to improve access to a quality education.

For more information about The Heartland Institute or to reserve your place at the Emerging Issues Forum, contact MaryAnn McCabe at 312/377-4000 or e-mail MMB@heartland.org.

This message was sent to rep88@ohiohouse.gov from:

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From: Nick Dranias

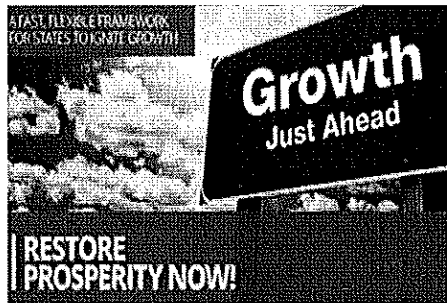
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2016 6:00 AM

To: Rep88

Subject: Learn How Liberty = Prosperity (Jul 28, 2016)

You are invited to the following event:

RESTORE PROSPERITY NOW!



Event to be held at the following time, date, and location:

Thursday, July 28, 2016 from 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM (EDT)

JW Marriott Indianapolis
10 South West Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

[View Map](#)

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No Maybe

Want the American Dream Back? Here's how!

Restore Prosperity Now!

A Fast, Flexible Framework for States to Create Growth

How states can turbocharge economic growth and opportunity through expandable Prosperity Zones, replacing state and federal tax and regulatory policy with state-of-the-art best practices. Presented by Compact for America, in alliance with Federalism in Action and NeWAY Foundation.

Date: Thursday, July 28, 2016

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Location: ALEC Annual Convention, Indianapolis

Panelists:

Stephen Moore, MA

Why explosive economic growth can result from zone-based deep regulatory and fiscal reforms.

Distinguished Visiting Fellow, Project for Economic Growth, Heritage Foundation
National Spokesman, Compact for America Educational Foundation

Moore, who formerly wrote on the economy and public policy for The Wall Street Journal, is National Spokesman for Compact for America Educational Foundation and the Distinguished Visiting Fellow, Project for Economic Growth, at The Heritage Foundation. Moore, who also was a member of The Journal's editorial board, returned to Heritage in January 2014 -- about 25 years after his tenure as the leading conservative think tank's Grover M. Hermann Fellow in Budgetary Affairs from 1984 to 1987. He founded and served as president of the Club for Growth from 1999 to 2004.

Adrian Moore, PhD

Why market-based regulation through enforcement of property rights and contract law is superior to centrally-enacted and enforced regulation.

Vice President of Policy, Reason Foundation

Dr. Moore leads Reason's policy implementation efforts and conducts his own research on topics such as privatization, government and regulatory reform, air quality, transportation and urban growth, prisons and utilities. Dr. Moore regularly

advises federal, state and local officials on ways to streamline government and reduce costs. His work has been published in the Wall Street Journal, Los Angeles Times, Boston Globe, Houston Chronicle, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Orange County Register, as well as in, Public Policy and Management, Transportation Research Part A, Urban Affairs Review, Economic Affairs, and numerous other publications.

Sam Batkins, JD

Living in the regulatory thicket: how federal rules affect consumers, workers, and the states.

Director of Regulatory Policy, American Action Forum

Sam Batkins focuses his research on examining the rulemaking efforts of administrative agencies and Congress. His work has appeared in The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, The Hill, Reuters, and The Washington Post, among other publications. He has testified before the U.S. House, Senate, and state legislatures across the country. Prior to joining the Forum, Batkins worked at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Institute for Legal Reform and the National Taxpayers Union. At the U.S. Chamber, he focused on lawsuit abuse, tort reform, and federal regulation. During his time at the National Taxpayers Union, he conducted studies on state and federal spending. Batkins received his B.A. in political science from Sewanee: The University of the South, where he graduated summa cum laude and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. He received his J.D. from Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law. He is a member of the Maryland Bar.

Nick Dranias, JD

Why an interstate compact is the launching pad to Restore Prosperity Now!

President & Executive Director, Compact for America Educational Foundation
Research Fellow & Policy Advisor, Heartland Institute

Dranias is a constitutional scholar and an expert in the law of interstate compacts. Dranias has written and published more than 50 articles in law and public policy, including law review articles, public policy reports, and opinion editorials focused in the law of interstate compacts, state sovereignty, regulatory reform and local governmental reform. He has appeared as a constitutional scholar on Fox News, MSN-NBC, NPR, and many other outlets. Previously, Dranias served as General Counsel, Policy Development Director and Constitutional Policy Director at the Goldwater Institute. Dranias led the Goldwater Institute's successful challenge to Arizona's system of government campaign financing to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Prior to that, Nick was an attorney with the Institute for Justice for three years and an attorney in private practice in Chicago for eight years.

Erick Brimen

How Prosperity Zones strike at the root cause of what holds our economy back.

Partner, NeWAY Capital

Senior Fellow, NeWAY Foundation

Since late 2014, Erick Brimen serves as a partner at NeWAY Capital, an asset management firm that invests in the profitable advancement of liberty. Erick started his career in private banking, working at Brown Brothers Harriman & Co - the oldest and largest private bank in the United States. He later moved to investment banking as a mergers and acquisition sell-side advisor for AG Edwards & Sons (now Wells Fargo), where he participated in transactions valued at over \$1.2 billion. After investment banking, Erick joined Ernst & Young's London consulting practice, where he advised buy-side private equity clients as they considered acquisition targets. Soon after, he was recruited by the Borealis Group to join as CFO of Latin American operations, leading the creation of multiple business units. When the time was right, Erick started his entrepreneurial career in the world of financial intermediation as founder of ComparaMejor.com. Erick graduated from Babson College with a dual major in Finance and Economics, and focus on Entrepreneurship.

Moderator:

Hon. Greg Snowden, JD

Speaker Pro Tempore, Mississippi State House

Greg Snowden is the second highest-ranking officer of the Mississippi House of Representatives and was appointed by Governor Bryant to serve on the Compact Commission of the Compact for a Balanced Budget, the first interstate agency ever formed to advance a federal Balanced Budget Amendment. Snowden's duties as Speaker Pro Tempore include chairing the House Management Committee, which oversees all business, personnel and financial operations of the body. In addition, Snowden serves on the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, a joint committee of Representatives and Senators which prepares the state budget, and on the powerful House Rules Committee, which schedules and controls the flow of legislation. Snowden also serves as Chairman of the Mississippi House Republican Caucus, and is the current chair of the Mississippi Republican Elected Officials Association. Recognized nationally for his leadership, Greg serves on the Executive committees

of both the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) and the Southern Legislative Conference (SLC).

Please share this event on Facebook and Twitter

We hope you can make it!

Cheers,

Nick Dranias

President & Executive Director
Compact for America Educational Foundation, Inc.

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From: Dan Doecker
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2016 9:44 PM
To: Rep88
Subject: HB 583 Is Wrong For Working People

Bill Reineke,

As your constituent, I write to you today to ask that you not support House Bill 583, Representative Beckers ill-advised Right to Work is Wrong bill. When Ohio voters overwhelmingly rejected Issue 2/SB 5 in 2011, they sent a clear message that they will not tolerate any attack on Ohio's middle class. They rejected the idea that our economic problems are the result of the workers' rights to collectively bargain and they rejected that extreme political agenda and opted instead to support governance with basic fairness.

Now, despite the voters' wholesale rejection of attacks on collective bargaining rights, and even Governor Kasich's admission that this type of law is not needed in Ohio to grow the economy, Representative Becker introduced a bill that will again try to divide workers in Ohio.

"Right to Work" is wrong laws are deceptively named. This effort, and all "right to work" is wrong laws, are not about rebuilding our state. It's not about work and it's not about rights. This is about politics, plain and simple. I am confident that when Ohioans find out that this is just a rehash of SB5 they will shut it down, just like they did in 2011.

The preponderance of evidence gathered from extensive independent research shows that so called "right to work" is wrong policies are in fact damaging to local economies as they lower wages and often create an environment that is conducive to job flight instead of fulfilling the promises of their proponents. An

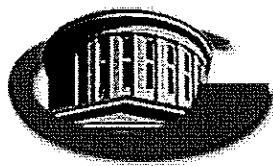
examination of states that have passed these laws points this out very clearly. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average worker in a right to work state makes about \$535 less per month in wages. "Right to work" is wrong laws have also been shown to lower the likelihood that employees get healthcare or pensions through their jobs, and increases workplace fatality rates by 36%—again, for both union and nonunion employees-- and the laws have no impact whatsoever on job growth.

Unfortunately, this anti-worker law represents the same old politics of division that will further erode our middle class and accelerate the ~~to~~ "race to the bottom" where all workers lose. If proponents continue to pursue these misguided measures, Ohio voters will see the effort for what it is-- a purely political attack that is dividing Ohioans and preventing any real progress on continued economic recovery. Again, these anti-worker policies lower wages, slash benefits, make workers less safe on the job and devastate communities. It doesn't just hurt union workers- it hurts ALL workers.

The General Assembly's focus needs to be on real solutions to create good family-sustaining jobs and restore balance to our economy and not on these political games. Indeed, that is exactly what Ohioans voted for in 2011 in striking down the last attempt at such a misguided policy. It would be wise for you to remember that failed attempt to limit collective bargaining rights and know that this will end in the same way. As your constituent, I ask that you please not support House Bill 583. I look forward to your response.

Dan Doepker
ddoepker@woh.rr.com
4253 S Township Road 151
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

From: Gongwer News Service
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2016 5:44 PM
To: Rep88
Subject: Ohio Report, Friday, July 15, 2016
Attachments: Jul15.htm; 160715dayplan.htm



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Ohio Report for Friday, July 15, 2016

Timeline For Energy Freeze Action Unclear, Says Senate No. 2

ECOT Debate Becomes Campaign Fodder In State Senate Race

RNC Update: Trump Confirms Pence As VP Pick; 'Never Trump' Efforts Fail...

Campus Culture Survey Results To Inform Continued Sexual Violence Prevention, Response Efforts

Becker Defends Right-To-Work Bill For Public Sector, Acknowledges Its Passage Is A Longshot

Education Notes: ECOT Defends Decision To Withhold Log-In Data; Antioch Receives Accreditation; Lawmaker Urges Standards Feedback

Court Briefs: Dems File Brief In = 2Golden Week' Case; 1851 Center Seeks To Stop Eminent Domain For Pipeline; Judicial College Employee Honored

Agency Briefs: AG's Office Doles Out Funding To Rape Crisis Centers; BWC; SOS; ODNR; PUCO; Senate

From Congress: Brown, Portman Applaud U.S. Attorney Confirmation; Kaptur Applauds Funding Awards; Gibbs; Ryan

Gongwer's Ohio Convention Coverage

Attorney General's Opinion

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

Calendars

Day Planner

Event Planner

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Volume #85, Report #136 -- Friday, July 15, 2016

Timeline For Energy Freeze Action Unclear, Says Senate No. 2

A Senate leader said lawmakers may not act on the soon-to-end freeze on renewable energy and energy efficiency standards until sometime next year.

Sen. Larry Obhof (R-Medina), the Senate's president pro tem and likely next chamber leader, said in an interview this week he advocates for an "all the above approach" to rethinking the mandates that were frozen in 2014 and are set to kick back in at the end of this year without legislative action.

But such an undertaking might not be easier considering the limited number of session days scheduled this fall, he said. The Senate is scheduled to return in late September with at most 21 days set for work in committees, and much fewer days anticipated for full sessions. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 1, 2016) The House, meanwhile, is set to reconvene after the November election with at most eight full session days.

"I think that's a pretty big issue and if there's not that many session days it remains to be seen whether that'll be tackled in that amount of time," Sen. Obhof said. "I definitely think moving forward whether it's at the end of this year or at the beginning of the next General Assembly we need to come up with a comprehensive and consistent policy on energy."

By not acting by Dec. 31, the freeze would thaw, allowing the standards to kick back into effect, which Republicans argue could harm Ohio considering lingering uncertainty over the federal Clean Power Plan and other unknowns. Proponents of the standards say any effort to extend the freeze or lower the standards would take the state backward.

There are currently three bills pending in either chamber with different approaches. A bill from Sen. Bill Seitz (SB 320) would extend the freeze until 2019, while a bill from Rep. Ron Amstutz (HB 554) would extend the freeze indefinitely. A third bill (SB 325), from Sen. Kris Jordan, would abolish the mandates completely. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 11, 2016)

If none of those bills pass by the end of the 131st General Assembly, the legislative slate will be wiped clean and a new bill would need to be authored to tackle the issue next year.

Sen. Obhof said that even if lawmakers act on the freeze, he believes more comprehensive action would be needed in the next General Assembly.

"I think there will be some kind of action in the next 12 to 18 months regardless of whether the freeze is extended or not," Sen. Obhof said. "I don't know if there is any

science supporting the current numbers and mandates in law. I think we need to have a fact-based approach, one that has room for all the natural resources available."

The pending end of the freeze is one of the reasons cited by Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) as a reason for more Republican scrutiny of Gov. John Kasich's recent appointee to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

Democratic attorney Howard Petricoff on Tuesday faced his first hearing before the Sen. Seitz's Senate Public Utilities Committee. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 12, 2016)

"I believe we're at a unique crossroads caused by a fairly simultaneous convergence of numerous complex issues," Sen. Seitz said. "I think we all need to make an effort to understand each other on these issues and of course no one is more central to that vortex than the five members of the PUCO."

Other uncertainties he cited include ongoing rehearings of proposed Power Purchase Agreements from AEP and FirstEnergy, the departure of former PUCO Chairman Andre Porter, and the ongoing federal court case over the legality of the Clean Power Plan.

ECOT Debate Becomes Campaign Fodder In State Senate Race

In one of the first significant rhetorical volleys in this legislative campaign cycle, the rising controversy over funding and student attendance at the state's largest online charter school is a point of contention in the race for the open 16th Senate District.

Democrat Cathy Johnson, a teacher looking to upset favored Rep. Stephanie Kunze (R-Hilliard) in the right-leaning western Franklin County seat, fired the initial salvo this week in criticizing the Republican over issues related to the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow.

Her criticisms were dismissed by Sen. Dave Burke (R-Marysville), chairman of the Republican Senate Campaign Committee, who described the Democrat's statements as "misguided to say the least" and defended the Republican's positions on and support for education.

The race for the seat being vacated by Sen. Jim Hughes (R-Columbus) is one of only a handful in the Senate this year that's expected to be even marginally competitive thanks to the GOP-led reapportionment process. It has trended Republican for several years, but Democrats are hoping that with a polarizing candidate atop the GOP ticket they can make hay in legislative races this fall.

ECOT is currently locked in a legal battle with the Ohio Department of Education over attendance records, with a looming audit having the potential to strip millions of funding from the online charter founded by Bill Lager. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 11, 2016)

Ms. Johnson in a campaign release "announced her support" for ODE's attempts to examine ECOT's records and said Rep. Kunze voted "against measures to hold e-

schools accountable in 2015" and "has accepted \$33,000 from ECOT's founder, Bill Lager, over the past four years."

"As a mother, teacher and taxpayer, I am astonished by the deceptive tactics of this taxpayer-funded e-school," Ms. Johnson said. "It's disappointing that Representative Kunze refused to stand up for Ohio's students and taxpayers by holding ECOT accountable when she had the chance."

The Democrat said Ms. Kunze "voted with Republicans to block amendments that would have required annual audits for charter school operators, clarified that records of all charter school operators are public records and given the public more access to information on charter school board members and meeting times."

"It's disappointing that Representative Kunze refused to stand up for Ohio's students and taxpayers by holding ECOT accountable when she had the chance," Ms. Johnson added. "Instead, she chose to accept donations from ECOT's founder. We need a State Senator who is dedicated to fighting for students and families. Anyone can say yes to special interests with deep pockets."

Sen. Burke questioned the focus of Ms. Johnson's assertions, saying Rep. Kunze has a record that belies such criticisms.

"Stephanie Kunze has a record of supporting both public education and parent choice," he said. "I would also say that both traditional public education and charter schools and ECOT schools, etc. are all in need of improvement beyond a shadow of a doubt and that is what we're working on."

To that end, Sen. Burke said, Ms. Kunze was a cosponsor of HB 2, which he described as "the largest reform bill dealing with non-traditional public schools." As the legislature continues to look for improvements to all kinds of public schools, he added, "she is obviously supportive of that."

"I would say, unlike Ms. Johnson's statement, that rather than have a singular source of education, that Stephanie believes parents should have a choice. The competition within that market drives improvement, so in order for public schools to get better, parents should have a choice."

The Republican said some of the tabled budget amendments the Democrat is apparently referring to "would have basically eliminated parent choice."

Sen. Burke also pushed back on the suggestion of a quid pro quo involving campaign donations.

"I imagine Stephanie Kunze, like me, accepts money from a lot of people," he said. "I've taken money from Bill Lager. I also was a direct cosponsor of (Sen. Peggy Lehner's) bill to reform ECOT and charter schools from day one."

"I guess the inverse question there would be, 'If the (Ohio Education Association) paid money to Stephanie Kunze, do you think she'd change?' I'm guessing probably not."

The debate over ECOT escalated considerably in recent weeks as ODE moved forward with plans to review the schools attendance records. In the latest twist, the *Columbus Dispatch* reported Thursday that ECOT is refusing to release some of the requested data.

As election season progresses, Democrats have increasingly pointed to the majority GOP's ties to ECOT, which has been at the forefront of the Republican-led expansion of the charter industry in the state.

Carrying forward the support of his predecessor, Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) spoke at this year's ECOT graduation ceremony, which in the past has been attended by other prominent Republican officeholders.

The Ohio Democratic Party recently called for a moratorium on state funding to ECOT and a larger investigation into the state's charter school system, stating: "Last year as the Ohio General Assembly considered a bill to reform charter schools, Lager gave nearly \$150,000 to 21 Ohio Republican legislators over the course of two months."

RNC Update: Trump Confirms Pence As VP Pick; 'Never Trump' Efforts Fail...

Donald Trump on Friday became the first presumptive nominee to announce his vice presidential pick via Twitter.

As expected, Mr. Trump confirmed he has tabbed Indiana Gov. Mike Pence as his running mate in a tweet shortly before 11 a.m.

Mr. Trump had previously announced he was postponing the New York City press conference where he was expected to make the announcement following a mass killing in Nice, France.

But Gov. Pence faced a noon deadline Friday by which to withdraw from his gubernatorial reelection bid in order for the Indiana Republican Party to name a replacement candidate, meaning the news would have been confirmed then even without an announcement from the Trump campaign.

The formal news conference will now take place at 11 a.m. Saturday in New Jersey.

Word broke Thursday that the first term Indiana governor and former congressman was to be Mr. Trump's No. 2.

Gov. Pence has been engaged in a gubernatorial rematch with Democrat John Gregg - a race that's taken on a new element of competitiveness following Republican discontent over Mr. Pence's handling of last year's so-called Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

Mr. Pence, well thought of in religious conservative circles, is seen as an attempt by Mr. Trump to appeal to that voter bloc and to create inroads with Congress, where Gov. Pence served from 2001-2013.

The campaign of DNC presumptive nominee Hillary Clinton immediately blasted the pick in a statement, calling it the "most extreme VP pick in a generation."

Clinton campaign Chairman John Podesta criticized the governor for defunding Planned Parenthood, advocating early on for the Tea Party movement, and signing a religious freedom law that opponents say legalized discrimination against LGBT citizens.

"By picking Mike Pence as his running mate, Donald Trump has doubled down on some of his most disturbing beliefs by choosing an incredibly divisive and unpopular running mate known for supporting discriminatory politics and failed economic policies that favor millionaires and corporations over working families," Mr. Podesta said.

The campaign then promptly organized a media call featuring allied groups criticizing the Republican ticket.

Rules Committee: GOP leaders and Trump loyalists thwarted plans to undermine Mr. Trump's candidacy during a closely watched RNC Rules Committee meeting Thursday.

The morning meeting was delayed several hours while party leaders attempted to negotiate with members of the "Never Trump" movement, but talks soon fell apart. Those members had hoped to change rules to permit delegates to vote their conscience, thereby freeing bound delegates to vote against Mr. Trump on the first ballot.

But as the day wore on it became clear the anti-Trump contingent had too little support for success and lacked the required votes to create a minority report that would have ensured debate on the issue before the full convention next week. Amendment author Kendal Unruh said she would still attempt to earn the required 28 signatures for a minority report.

Following much debate, delegates also shot down a proposed amendment that would have barred lobbyists from being members of the RNC - a change Ohio delegate and lobbyist JoAnn Davidson strongly criticized in remarks before the body.

The committee, which had planned to meet Friday, eventually finished the agenda late Thursday and adjourned. The rules package will be sent to the full convention Monday for consideration.

RNC Chairman Reince Priebus said the meeting "made clear the high level of unity within our Party."

"Grassroots voices from every state and territory have crafted a set of rules which will keep our party strong at the local, state, and national level, and we honored the spirit of democracy by conducting our Rules Committee meeting in a completely open and transparent fashion," he said.

Schedule: The RNC had not yet released an official schedule of events for convention week in Cleveland as of midday Friday, just two days before the RNC is schedule to kickoff.

But Ohio leaders and others have already announced a slew of ancillary events timed to capitalize on the convention crowd.

The Ohio Republican Party will host daily 8 a.m. breakfasts featuring Treasurer Josh Mandel and U.S. Sen. Tom Cotton (Monday); U.S. Rep. Bill Johnson and Frank Luntz (Tuesday); U.S. Rep. Pat Tiberi and House Speaker Paul Ryan (Wednesday); and Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor, U.S. Sen. Rob Portman, and Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi (Thursday).

The ORP already announced a 3:30 p.m. Tuesday event at the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame to honor Gov. John Kasich.

A sampling of other events during the course of the week includes:

- Sunday - a "Taste of Little Italy" event featuring Attorney General Mike DeWine at 3 p.m. at Tony Brush Park
- Monday - a 3 p.m. campaign event in which Sen. Rob Portman, former Speaker Newt Gingrich and Sen. Joni Ernst will address Sen. Portman volunteers at the Tri-C Metropolitan Campus
- Tuesday, a 10:15 a.m. reception for media members with Sen. Rob Portman; and 11 a.m. welcome tea hosted by the Ohio Federation of Republican Women at the Wyndham Cleveland at Playhouse Square featuring U.S. Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.)

A partial list of convention speakers was officially released Thursday, although the time and dates of the speeches have yet to be announced by the RNC.

In contrast, the Democratic National Convention Committee announced Friday the headline speakers for the DNC in Philadelphia later this month. They include First Lady Michelle Obama and Sen. Bernie Sanders July 25, President Bill Clinton July 26, President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden July 27, and Hillary Clinton and Chelsea Clinton July 28.

A series of musical acts will perform each day of the RNC at Freedom Plaza, which will also include drinks and food. For a complete list, visit the RNC's website. An evening

concert, featuring a variety of "American Idol" and "The Voice" winners will take place at 11 p.m. Tuesday at Gray's Armory.

The Clinton campaign and the DNC, meanwhile, are organizing their own counter events in Cleveland with a slew of press conferences and conference calls aimed at undercutting the RNC. Former Gov. Ted Strickland and the Ohio Democratic Party will also ramp up their attacks on U.S. Sen. Rob Portman as they seek to link him to Mr. Trump.

Other groups have scheduled their own events to criticize Republicans. The Ohio AFL-CIO is set to "welcome" Republicans to the city during a 2 p.m. Sunday event featuring former Gov. Ted Strickland at the Laborers' Local 310 Hall.

ProgressOhio has created a calendar of counter events that includes a "Daily Show" convention sideshow, League of Women Voters voter registration drives, and daily nonviolence training for protestors.

Bob Bennett: The City of Cleveland granted a secondary street name to the intersection of Ontario Street and Huron Road for the duration of the convention. The intersection will be known as Bob Bennett Way in honor of former ORP chairman.

"More than any one person, Bob Bennett steadfastly sought to bring the Convention to Cleveland," Ohio Republican Party Chairman Matt Borges said. "We are sad that he is not here to see the world spotlight on Cleveland, but grateful to the Mayor's office for honoring him in this way so that we can acknowledge his contribution to this week."

Tourism: With the RNC expected to draw 50,000 people to Cleveland, TourismOhio is rolling out all the stops to showcase Ohio, according to a press release.

The group is launching a 360 degree "virtual reality experience" during the convention, to capitalize on visitors and showcase various Ohio hotspots.

The experience will be hosted in a 40-passenger bus located outside the Quicken Loans Arena, according to the release, and will "offer a personal Ohio adventure for participants with a wide range of interests." Those not at the event can take part online.

Some of the featured items include Cedar Point, Hocking Hills, parasailing over Lake Erie, and various Cleveland attractions.

Campus Culture Survey Results To Inform Continued Sexual Violence Prevention, Response Efforts

Students largely believe that their colleges and universities would seriously address sexual assault reports and take corrective action against offenders, according to their responses on surveys disseminated by all of the state's public institutions.

The surveys were an integral piece of the Changing Campus Culture initiative, which the Department of Higher Education launched last fall in an effort to encourage best practices in preventing and responding to sexual violence on campuses. (Survey Results)

Chancellor John Carey urged schools to join the voluntary effort and they responded. All of Ohio's public universities and 80% of private institutions participated in the campus climate survey that asked students to give feedback on how they think sexual assault is being handled and whether they know how to file reports.

Michelle Johnston, the University of Rio Grande/Rio Grande Community College president who has been the face of the initiative, said she's encouraged by the swell of interest in improving sexual violence policies.

The feedback, she said, will be used to steer the other facets of the \$2-million initiative, which include developing comprehensive response policies, adopting survivor-centered responses, launching awareness campaigns and implementing comprehensive training programs.

"With 100% of our public colleges and universities completing a common survey of our students, we have a clearer picture of where we are, collectively and as unique institutions," she said in a statement. "Using this data, we will thoroughly analyze where we are now and will chart a course for where we want to be, in relation to positive and safe environments on our campuses."

Students who responded to the survey agreed, on average, that the university would take sexual assault reports seriously and would support those making the reports. The average respondent also said the university would take corrective action against offenders and would take steps to protect the person making the report from retaliation.

However, students largely disagreed or were neutral with a survey statement that sexual violence is not a problem on their campuses and responses were mixed on a question of understanding institution policies for addressing complaints.

Less than one-third of students reported they don't know the contact information to get on-campus support for sexual violence despite about 13% of them saying they knew women who had been assaulted on campus.

"As I have shared many times before, numbers don't lie, and in the case of sexual violence on our campuses in Ohio, the numbers tell a story that needs a better ending," Ms. Johnston said of why the initiative was launched in October.

In addition to the aggregate data compiled by ODHE, the agency said campuses also administered more comprehensive surveys that will inform policies specific to individual institutions. All public institutions and 88% of private colleges and universities completed those surveys.

Ohio is one of few states in the country that has collected such data, according to ODHE. Much of the work to complete the surveys was done with the help of grants that were funded with a portion of the \$2 million allocated to the initiative in the biennium budget (HB 64).

The grants are also to be used to support putting best practices in place. The overall budget funding has paid for, among other things, webinars and summits to keep institutions engaged in the initiative and collaborating with one another.

"It's exciting to see Ohio dedicating state resources to collect prevalence data, support survivors and prevent sexual violence on college campuses, and partnering with the coalition and rape crisis centers," said Monika Johnson Hostler, the president of the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence.

"It is through this strategic, long-term investment and the development of partnerships between campuses and community-based programs that we will see long-term positive change for students."

Becker Defends Right-To-Work Bill For Public Sector, Acknowledges Its Passage Is A Longshot

The sponsor of public sector right-to-work legislation defends introducing the controversial measure while acknowledging it is likely dead-on-arrival.

Rep. John Becker (R-Union Twp.) said legislation (HB 583) that would remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization is good policy that will likely not be well-received in the General Assembly.

"It's something my constituents have been demanding for a long time," he said in an interview. "I think it's good for Ohio and hopefully it will be able to move forward."

But We Are Ohio, which was formed in opposition to similar legislation designed to curtail the collective bargaining power of public sector unions, slammed the proposal, saying that workers in state with similar laws make less money and are more prone to on-the-job injuries.

"We believe right-to-work is wrong for Ohio, for working people, for all of us," spokesman Dennis Willard said in an interview.

"There is no support from working people in this state for this extreme idea."

Asked about the likelihood of the bill becoming law, Rep. Becker said he has "no reason to be optimistic."

"I have no feedback one way or the other, but based on the public comments that the governor has made and based on my feelings of what's going on in the Senate or where they might be, I'm not optimistic," he said.

Gov. John Kasich has said repeatedly that right-to-work legislation is not on his agenda in the wake of the public rebuke over similar legislation (SB5, 129th General Assembly) that was struck down by the state's voters in a labor-backed referendum.

John Fourtney, spokesman for the Senate Majority Caucus, said the measure has yet to be vetted by members. However, Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina) has spoken favorably of eliminating a requirement for union shop employees to pay union dues (See Gongwer Ohio Report, January 4, 2013), but has said the support is not there among his members. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 3, 2013)

Carolyn Best, spokeswoman for Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville), also said the bill will be discussed further among caucus members in the fall.

The fight over Senate Bill 5 galvanized the labor movement, and Rep. Becker acknowledged that the introduction of similar legislation could provide good political fodder for Democrats in an election year.

"I could see that being a drawback. It just gives the Democrats another talking point and a fundraising letter to send out," he said.

However, he said his measure is different from Senate Bill 5 in that it does not address collective bargaining benefits.

"It is simply an opt-out for public sector employees," he said.

Democrats and labor groups have derided right-to-work legislation for allowing those who opt out of paying union dues to still receive the benefits from negotiated terms of contracts. But Rep. Becker said those who opt-out under his legislation would no longer be protected by unions.

"If they run into some kind of trouble with management, they will not be able to look to the union," he said, adding that it is up to management to decide how to deal with the wages and benefits of non-union employees.

Critics have also said that right-to-work legislation is designed to weaken unions both financially and politically. Rep. Becker, however, also downplayed that critique.

"I wouldn't expect a mass exodus from unions if this were to be signed into law," he said. "If there were a significant exit, it would tell me that there's a problem with the unions. If the only way they can maintain their union through a captive audience then they need to be looking in the mirror."

Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper called the bill a "sneak attack on Ohio's working families for the lame duck session."

Education Notes: ECOT Defends Decision To Withhold Log-In Data; Antioch Receives Accreditation; Lawmaker Urges Standards Feedback

A spokesman for the state's largest online charter school is defending the school's refusal to hand over student log-in data requested by the Department of Education.

Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow is not breaking any laws by refusing the data that's at the center of a lawsuit alleging ODE will misuse that information to determine per-pupil funding, school spokesman Neil Clark said.

A Franklin County judge earlier this week denied ECOT's request for a temporary restraining order to stop ODE from moving forward with an audit until after the court rules how student attendance should be used to inform payment totals.

ODE on Monday moved forward with the attendance review, but an email from the agency's attorney to ECOT revealed that the school was refusing to turn over the log-in and log-out information for students.

The agency's attorney Douglas Cole requested access to the documents be immediately provided, but Mr. Clark said that won't be happening.

"We're saying we're not doing anything unless the court tells us to," he said in an interview.

ECOT is interpreting the judge's decision differently than ODE, he said. While it may have allowed the audit to move forward, there is no specification that the review can occur in a way that conflicts with a contract between the school and ODE

The school's lawsuit argues that ODE's decision to not provide funding for students who weren't logging in at least five hours per day is out of line with an agreement that has been in place for previous audits. That contractual agreement states that the school must offer up to 920 hours of learning opportunities - not that students must partake, Mr. Clark said.

"It's just not about did you show up today, it's far more detailed than that; it's how did you get to that 920?" he said.

ODE, meanwhile, is contending that online schools are required by state law to make daily student participation records accessible, regardless of how that information is being used. Mr. Evans said in his email a statute specifying that mandate has been in place since February.

The e-school's governing board was expected to meet Friday - mostly in executive session - to discuss the lawsuit and next steps.

Accreditation: Antioch College this week announced it has been accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

The independent college had spent the last two years pursuing accreditation after reopening in 2011. Originally founded in 1850, it closed in 2008 amid financial troubles and leaders have since been focused on building the historic institution back up.

President Tom Manley said in a video posted to YouTube that the university can now focus its attention on continuing to build a financial foundation and recruit students.

"This great result comes from the hard work of our faculty, our staff, students, our alumni who have been so incredibly supportive and the leadership of our board of trustees," he said. "It is a ringing endorsement of the quality and strength of the education that Antioch college can now offer, and it is a vote of confidence in our ability to offer that education for years to come. "

The commission's decision is retroactive, meaning the recent graduates in the class of 2016 will receive diplomas from an accredited institution, Antioch reported.

Standards Revisions: Rep. Jack Cera is urging educators and the public to provide feedback on proposed revisions to English and math standards.

The Bellaire Democrat said his constituents have shared frustration with the current common core standards, known as Ohio's Learning Standards, and now is the time to recommend changes.

Through 5 p.m. Aug. 1, ODE is accepting public comments on the proposed revisions that were drafted in response to the work of a task force and an earlier public survey.

"I wanted to take the time to share this opportunity with the people of the 96th District because I have received many questions from teachers, parents and administrators about the education department's new revisions," he said. "This is a perfect opportunity for parents to get involved in the process and voice their questions, comments and concerns with those who create these standards directly."

Court Briefs: Dems File Brief In 'Golden Week' Case; 1851 Center Seeks To Stop Eminent Domain For Pipeline; Judicial College Employee Honored

The Ohio Democratic Party has thrown its weight behind an effort to ensure that unregistered voters have a small window prior to the presidential election to register and cast a ballot on the same day.

In a brief filed with U.S. Sixth District Court of Appeals, the party asks the court to uphold a lower court ruling that found the elimination of "Golden Week" to be a violation of the Voting Rights Act.

"Jon Husted and Mike DeWine continue to waste time and money in court, ignoring the Constitution and clear precedent while attempting to make it harder to vote," Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper said in a statement.

"In their appeal, Husted and DeWine blatantly disregard the fact that eliminating an additional week of early voting and same-day registration disproportionately impacted African-American voters. The Ohio Democratic Party will always fight to protect the fundamental right to vote for all eligible citizens."

In his ruling, U.S. District Court Judge Michael Watson found that the elimination of Golden Week disproportionately impacted black voters in Ohio. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 24, 2016)

In a separate decision, Judge Watson denied a request to stay the ruling for the November presidential election while the decision is appealed.

ODP is now accusing Secretary of State Jon Husted of failing to heed the ruling by not providing accurate information for voters about the start of early voting on his office's website.

"Jon Husted has a long history of blatantly ignoring court decisions that have rebuked his attacks on Ohioans' voting rights, and his refusal, once again, to provide accurate information about early voting is plainly designed to mislead Ohioans about their voting rights," Mr. Pepper said.

"If he won't relent and update the misleading information his office is providing, we will take action to ensure he follows the court order restoring 'Golden Week.' The Ohio Democratic Party will always fight to protect the fundamental right to vote for all eligible citizens."

Husted spokesman Josh Eck said the website won't be changed while the case is under appeal.

"The ruling was stayed for the upcoming August Special Election and is currently on appeal ahead of the November election. It would be irresponsible for the Secretary to begin advertising changes that may very well have to undergo further changes before the General Election, as they did in 2012," he said.

"Secretary Husted is committed to making sure all voters know the rules and can participate and we welcome others to join us in pursuing clarity over chaos."

Eminent Domain: The 1851 Center for Constitutional Law has asked the Wood County Common Pleas Court to dismiss more than a dozen eminent domain cases filed by a Texas pipeline company.

The group said in a court filing that Kinder Morgan's eminent domain action against 15 families in the Bowling Green area violates Ohio's constitution because the project for which it is seeking the land is not a "public necessity."

The land would be used for the "Utopia Pipeline," a private ethane pipeline running underground to a Canadian plastics factory.

"Imagine that a private sector lawyer desired to get to the Wood County Court of Common Pleas faster. Could he forcibly appropriate others' private land along the route, from his front door step to the court's parking lot to build a personal road, with no on-ramps or exits, and twenty foot walls on either side, just to represent one very wealthy client who anticipated routinely using his services?" the filing reads.

"If the answer is 'no,' then it must be here as well. And it is 'no,' because no such road would be a public use, even if the lawyer appealed to the public interest in 'justice' and 'market demand for lawyers.'"

Maurice Thompson, the group's executive director, said in a statement the proposed eminent domain action is "redistribution of wealth of the worst sort."

"The abuse along the Utopia Pipeline is a prime example of what can happen when legislators attempt to auction off Ohioans' property rights to the highest bidder," he said. "Ultimately, the Ohio Constitution prevents this abuse, and we will prevail in court. But statutes inviting this sort of behavior should be amended or repealed."

Honor: A long-time employee of the Ohio Judicial College has been nationally recognized for his work, the high court reported.

Kristopher Steele, an education program manager, received the 2016 Perkins Award from the National Association for Court Management

"It's because of employees like Kristopher that the Supreme Court has an outstanding reputation nationally," Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor said in a statement. "I have received multiple compliments about the Judicial College programs and our staff from my colleagues when attending national meetings."

"I am honored to win this award and will accept it on behalf of all the other dedicated personnel working behind the scenes at courts to help improve services to their communities," Mr. Steele said.

Agency Briefs: AG's Office Doles Out Funding To Rape Crisis Centers; BWC; SOS; ODNR; PUCO; Senate

Attorney General Mike DeWine on Friday announced that 29 rape crisis centers across the state will receive more than \$1.4 million in grant funding.

"We owe it to survivors of sexual assault to make sure they receive comprehensive support after an attack," AG DeWine said. "These funds will go toward helping agencies across the state to provide quality, compassionate care to those who need it."

The following 28 agencies will all receive \$45,803:

- Abuse and Rape Crisis Center of Warren County
- Alive, Inc., Steubenville
- Appleseed Community Mental Health Center, Ashland
- Cleveland Rape Crisis Center
- Compass Rape Crisis Center, Stark County
- Compass Rape Crisis Center, Tuscarawas County
- Compass Family and Community Services, Youngstown
- Council on Domestic Violence/Open Arms, Findlay
- Crime Victim Services, Lima
- Edna Brooks Foundation/My Sister's Place, Athens
- Erie County Prosecutor
- Eve, Inc., Marietta
- Haven of Hope, Cambridge
- Helpline of Delaware and Morrow Counties
- Highland County Domestic Violence Task Force
- Lake County Prosecutor
- New Directions, Mt. Vernon
- OneEighty, Wayne County

- Project Woman, Springfield
- Rape Crisis Center of Medina and Summit Counties
- Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio
- The Cocoon, Bowling Green
- The Domestic Violence Shelter, Mansfield
- The Nord Center, Lorain
- Townhall II, Kent
- Tri-County Help Center, St. Clairsville
- Women Helping Women, Cincinnati
- YWCA of Northwest Ohio, Toledo

Another \$142,500 will be distributed to the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence.

BWC: As the Bureau of Workers' Compensation transitions to prospective billing, it is asking private employers to report their actual payroll for the policy year ended June 30 and to reconcile any differences in premium paid prior to the closure of the "True-up" window on Aug. 15.

Employers will be removed from their current rating plan or discount program if it BWC does not receive a payroll true-up by the due date. Outstanding payroll true-ups will render the employer ineligible for participation in future rating plans or discount programs until all outstanding payroll true-ups are complete.

"This step is an important part of BWC's ongoing efforts to modernize operations and provide better service to Ohio's employers," BWC Administrator/CEO Sarah Morrison said in a statement. "It's also necessary for BWC to accurately calculate an employer's premium and for employers to maintain their participation in current rating plan or discount programs."

The transition, according to BWC, has allowed it to reduce base rates and offer employers more flexible payment options and the ability to better forecast their costs.

True-ups can be completed online and if done through the web qualifies eligible employers for a 1% premium rebate, up to a \$2,000 maximum.

The payroll true-up may also be completed through the call center at 1-800-644-6292.

Secretary of State: Jon Husted announced 8,480 new state business filings in June. The figure represents an increase over the same period on 2015, when 8,151 entities were formed.

June was again a record setting month for business filing; 4,300 more entities have filed so far in 2016 than at the same point in 2015.

New filings increased 21.8% from 2010-2015.

Department of Natural Resources: A total of 2,192 permits have been issued for drilling on the Utica Shale as of July 9, according to data from the Division of Oil and Gas Resources.

A total of 1,756 wells have been drilled, and 1,334 wells are in production, according to the ODNR.

The department also announced that Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor attended the opening ceremonies for the Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation National Championship at the Cardinal Shooting Center in Marengo.

PUCO: The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio is remind consumers that that they may be eligible for budget billing.

The program, offered by Ohio's regulated electric and natural gas distribution companies, allows consumers to avoid spikes in billion in the summer and winter months.

General Assembly: Legislative staff and members of the Senate collected more than 33,000 pounds of canned food for the Mid-Ohio Foodbank.

The internal food drive also generated \$3,000 in donations, which will provide 39,500 meals to local residents.

From Congress: Brown, Portman Applaud U.S. Attorney Confirmation; Kaptur Applauds Funding Awards; Gibbs; Ryan

Ohio's senators this week applauded the confirmation of Carole Rendon as the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio.

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Avon) and U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park) recommended Ms. Rendon, a former first assistant U.S. attorney, for the post last month.

"No one is more qualified to serve as U.S. Attorney for the Northern District than Carole Rendon," Sen. Brown said in a statement. "Now that she is confirmed she can continue her work on behalf of Ohioans."

Sen. Portman said, "Carole Rendon is a proud Ohioan, an accomplished lawyer, and a dedicated public servant. She has already served Ohio with distinction for seven years, and I'm pleased that she will continue as U.S. Attorney for Northern Ohio. I am grateful to my colleagues for making the right decision and confirming her nomination."

Border: Sen. Brown urged customs and border protection to launch an investigation into produce made using child and forced labor.

Joining with Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), he wrote to CBP Commissioner Gil Kerlikowske decrying a loophole that allows some of those products into the country if there is not a sufficient supply.

"We urge you to continue that dialogue with regular meetings between NGOs, as well as other stakeholders, and CBP, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the State Department, and the Department of Labor and a meeting in the very near term to discuss issues related to regulations. Increased communication will lead to more successful petitions and better enforcement against forced labor imports," the senators wrote.

Funding: U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Toledo) applauded several instances of new funding awarded to her district this week.

First she welcomed news of a \$700 million retooling of Toledo's Jeep North Assembly Plant.

The project, which will equip the plant for production of the next generation of Jeep Wrangler, was announced this week by Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and promises 700 new jobs.

"This is almost beyond belief, given where we were eight short years ago," Rep. Kaptur said. "For seventy-five years Toledans have manufactured Wranglers. FCA's investment today will ensure this legacy remains for years to come."

The Cleveland Hopkins International Airport will also receive \$22.1 million in federal funds for improvements including safety upgrades and new snow removal equipment.

Lastly, Rep. Kaptur announced the award of a \$3.1 million grant to the Lorain Fire Department and the city of Lorain aimed at addressing a staffing crisis.

The funds, from FEMA's Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response program, aim to fix the fallout of the recent layoffs of 22 members of the city's fire department.

"This is obviously great news," Rep. Kaptur said. "Credit should go to the Lorain firefighters, who have actively organized in recent weeks and made their case effectively and persuasively, and to Lorain Mayor Chase Ritenauer and Lorain Fire Chief Tom Brown. Their diligence in helping to find a solution brought about this two-year solution to an immediate problem."

Zika: U.S. Rep. Bob Gibbs and colleagues urged President Barack Obama to expand protections against the Zika virus. The Obama Administration has opposed a resolution that would permit mosquito control programs to implement control plans without duplicative permits, Rep. Gibbs said.

"I want to know why it is acceptable for Puerto Rico to increase their defense against Zika, but not the rest of the United States?" Rep. Gibbs asked in a statement. "All Americans should be protected against the spread of Zika and I encourage the president to change his mind and allow the increased use of live-saving pesticides and give pregnant women safety from this terrible illness. If the President ends his opposition to the Conference report, Congress can take swift action to protect those most vulnerable to Zika."

An amendment on Zika from U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan (D-Niles), meanwhile, failed with a 20-29 committee vote. It would have stricken a funding cap of \$461 million on bilateral family planning and created a funding floor of \$585 million to administer anti-Zika programs.

"I am deeply disappointed that House Republicans rejected this amendment and have decided to turn their back on thousands of men and women struggling through this crisis," Rep. Ryan said.

Abortions: Rep. Gibbs applauded the House passage of legislation aimed at protecting health care professionals who refuse to participate in providing abortions.

The lawmaker supported the bill, saying it protects the religious freedom of those professionals.

"The House's vote today gives those willing to exercise their beliefs the option of using the court system if their employment is in jeopardy, instead of being at the mercy of a government bureaucracy," he said. "It is critical that we not only protect the unborn, but protect those whose livelihoods may be at stake for providing that protection."

Trade: An amendment from Rep. Ryan that would require an impact analysis on free trade agreements on wages and the demand for educator workers passed a House committee this week by voice vote.

The amendment is to a measure that would require the Bureau of Labor Statistics to submit a report on the impact of such agreements on the American workforce.

"All that you need to do is look at the shuttered factories and shattered communities across Ohio to see the devastating affect free trade agreements have had across our country," he said. "I am proud that my amendment passed and we will soon be able to know the true cost of these deals to our nation," Mr. Ryan said.

Israel: Sen. Portman and Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-Mo.) released a bipartisan report from the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations examining government grants to OneVoice, which is a non-governmental organization in Israel and Palestine.

The report examines the nearly \$350,000 in grants received from the State Department to foster peace between the two counties. The report determined the NGO complied with the department's terms but shortly after the terms expired used the funds to support a political campaign.

"The State Department ignored warnings signs and funded a politically active group in a politically sensitive environment with inadequate safeguards," Sen. Portman said. "It is completely unacceptable that U.S. taxpayer dollars were used to build a political campaign infrastructure that was deployed - immediately after the grant ended - against the leader of our closest ally in the Middle East. American resources should be used to help our allies in the region, not undermine them."

SNAP: Rep. Ryan this week sought to push for increased digital access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

"If we continue on our current trajectory, we will have an adult obesity rate of 60% within 15 years," he said. "In a country, where 23.5 million people live in food deserts, we cannot allow the status quo to continue and must find new ways for all Americans to have access to fresh, healthy food."

Gongwer's Ohio Convention Coverage

Gongwer News Service's planned coverage of the Republican National Convention in Cleveland next week will include regular updates to the website during the day.

Significant breaking news will be distributed through email alerts but subscribers can check the website throughout each day of the convention for updates focusing on activities of the Ohio delegation and other events.

Subscribers may also follow reporter Mikel Livingston and Gongwer on Twitter for links to those updates on our website. Mike's account is @mikellivingston and the main account is @gongwer.

Attorney General's Opinion

No. 2016-023, Requested by Fairfield County Prosecuting Attorney Gregg Marx.
SYLLABUS:

1. An emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by Violet Township may provide medical services in nonemergency situations pursuant to R.C. 4765.361, so long as the medical services are performed under the direction of the emergency medical technician's medical director or cooperating physician advisory

board, are within the scope of practice of the emergency medical technician, and do not conflict with the emergency medical services described in R.C. 4765.37, R.C. 4765.38, R.C. 4765.39, and the rules adopted by the State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services.

2. An emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by a township is immune from civil liability for injury, death, or loss to person or property resulting from the provision of medical services in a nonemergency situation unless the services are provided in a manner that constitutes wanton or willful misconduct, the services are manifestly outside the scope of the emergency medical technician's employment, or the services are performed with malicious purpose, in bad faith, or in a wanton or reckless manner.

3. An emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by a township may not provide medical services on a routine, day-to-day basis outside the boundaries of the township when revenue from a township tax levy pays the emergency medical technician's compensation, unless the township has entered into a contract with another political subdivision pursuant to R.C. 9.60 or R.C. 505.44, or the township provides the medical services to the territory of another township or municipal corporation as a member of a joint fire district pursuant to R.C. 505.371, a fire and ambulance district pursuant to R.C. 505.375, or a joint ambulance district pursuant to R.C. 505.71.

4. A board of township trustees may establish reasonable charges for the use of medical services that are provided by an emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by the township in nonemergency situations and may collect those charges from a private hospital system that agrees to pay those charges on behalf of the recipient of the medical services.

5. A board of township trustees may contract with a private hospital system to provide medical services in nonemergency situations by an emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by the township to patients of the hospital who are residents and nonresidents of the township, so long as the private hospital system is a nonprofit corporation and the medical services are performed within the territory of the township.

6. A contract between the Violet Township Board of Trustees and a private hospital system for the provision of medical services in nonemergency situations may provide that the private hospital system will pay the township a sum of money for each visit performed by an emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic pursuant to the contract and that emergency medical technicians will provide medical services in nonemergency situations during the emergency medical technicians' regular work hours.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Wednesday, July 20

Rail Development Commission, 1980 West Broad Street, Rm. GA, Columbus, 11 a.m.

State Board of Education, 25 S. Front St., Columbus, 3 p.m. (Dropout Prevention and Recovery Study Committee)

Thursday, July 21

Board of Building Standards, Division of Industrial Compliance, 6606 Tussing Road, Training Room 1, Reynoldsburg, 9 a.m. (Code Committee)

Cemetery Dispute Resolution Commission, Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing, 77 South High Street, 22nd Floor, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Saturday, July 16

Gov. John Kasich to speak at 107th NAACP Convention, Duke Energy Convention Center, Hall A, 525 Elm St., Cincinnati, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 27

Beginning of Ohio State Fair

Sunday, August 7

End of Ohio State Fair

Sunday, October 2

Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) fall fest fundraiser, Peterson Farm, 5564 Grassy Branch Rd., Sabina, 4 p.m., (\$50 per Family | \$25 per Person to Peterson for Good Government)

Thursday, October 20


Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) shooting fundraiser, Vandalia Range and Armory, 100 Corp Center Drive, Vandalia, 5:30 p.m., (\$1000 Event Sponsor, includes up to 6 participants; \$500 Lane Sponsor, includes up to 4 participants; \$150 per couple | \$100 per person | \$50 Dinner only to Citizens for Bill Beagle)

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Daily Activity Planner for Saturday, July 16-Monday, July 18

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

No agency meetings scheduled.

Event Planner

Saturday, July 16

Ohio Legislative Black Caucus 2016 convention luncheon, Westin, 21 E. Fifth St., Cincinnati, 11:30 a.m., (Featuring U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee)
Gov. John Kasich to speak at 107th NAACP Convention, Duke Energy Convention Center, Hall A, 525 Elm St., Cincinnati, 6:30 p.m.
Ohio Legislative Black Caucus 2016 convention dinner gala, Duke Energy Center, Cincinnati, 7:30 p.m., (Featuring Vernon Jordan)

Monday, July 18

Republican National Convention, Cleveland

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From: NCSL TODAY

Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2016 10:41 AM

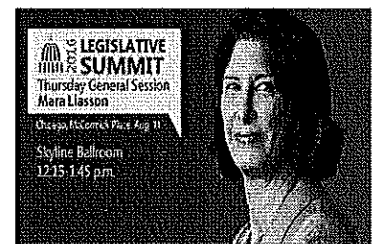
To: Rep88

Subject: U.S. will affirm its prohibition on medical marijuana

NCSL Today | Live from Chicago



Wisconsin Speaker of the House Robin Vos joins us in this eVideo update to talk about the NCSL business meeting that he presided over as well as some of the other sessions he attended while in Chicago. He also discusses next year's plans for the Summit in Boston



HIGHLIGHTS

Election 2016 with Mara Liasson of Fox News and NPR

Whether it's a nail-biter or a landslide, the 2016 election will bring tremendous change to the presidency, Congress and the states.

TOP NEWS Aug. 11, 2016

U.S. will affirm its prohibition on medical marijuana today

The Washington Post

The government on Thursday will refuse again to allow the use of marijuana for medical purposes, reaffirming its conclusion that the drug's therapeutic value has not been proved scientifically, according to government officials, and defying a growing clamor to legalize it for the treatment of a variety of conditions.

NCSL resolution urging feds to remove marijuana from Schedule 1 list cited.

As technology evolves, public disclosure gets more complicated for state legislatures

RouteFifty.com

As compliance with public disclosure laws becomes increasingly complicated in an era of cloud servers, smartphones and messaging apps, a panel of experts Monday offered a window into the sometimes tricky terrain state legislatures navigate when maintaining and releasing records. **Coverage of NCSL Legislative Summit session.**

State governments eye cash from fantasy sports

The Hill

State legislators across the country are preparing for a nationwide battle over the booming and largely unregulated daily fantasy sports industry.

Appeals court stays ruling on Wisconsin voter ID law

Associated Press

A federal appeals court on Wednesday blocked a pathway for

Mara Liasson, political pundit for Fox News Sunday and NPR, gives us the insider's view on 2016 politics and what it all may mean during a 12:15 p.m. general session.

LEGISLATIVE

NCSL applauds appeals court decision on FCC

NCSL recognizes outstanding legislative documents

New York Senate website takes top award at Summit



BLOG

Who should elect the president?

Wisconsin residents without the required photo identification to vote in the presidential election just three months away.

NCSL resources on voter ID.

Judge blocks West Virginia right-to-work law

Charleston Gazette-Mail

In issuing the injunction, Judge Jennifer Bailey said that until legal questions about the law can be resolved, enforcement of it could cause irreparable harm to unions and union workers.

Are animal hoarders criminals?

Stateline

Reports of animal hoarding are on the rise, leaving states and localities deciding whether to prosecute or deal with the underlying mental problem that leads to it.

Have you ever tried to explain to someone who does not follow politics how we elect the president? You always get to that uncomfortable moment where you have to say: No, voters don't actually elect the president, the members of the Electoral College elect the president.



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From: Heartland Institute: The Government Relations Team
Sent: Friday, August 12, 2016 10:04 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: The Leaflet - National Employee Freedom Week



National Employee Freedom Week

From August 14-20, a coalition of 102 groups in 42 states are banding together to celebrate National Employee Freedom Week (NEFW). NEFW celebrates right-to-work reforms across the nation and aims to inform union workers about their right to leave a union without loss of employment, salaries, benefits, or seniority.

Millions of workers currently reside in states or districts where they are required to pay dues or fees to a union as a condition of employment. Others are shackled because of "drop" periods that secretly lengthen union membership or, worst of all, mislead people to believe joining a union is the only option available.

In a 2015 *Somewhat Reasonable* article, Heartland State Government Relations Manager Logan Pike argued union workers are often misled into paying for representation they may consider unwarranted or political contributions that oppose their interests and viewpoints. ☞ Union members usually can leave their union only during a narrow, two-week window at the end of a three- or four-year contract. Labor unions often hide these opt-out provisions deep inside wordy contracts," said Pike. "Other workers remain in unions believing that will advance their careers, unaware that alternative professional organizations provide many of the same services, often with better benefits, at a fraction of the cost of union membership."

Paul Kersey, the director of labor policy at the Illinois Policy Institute, celebrated labor freedom in a 2014 article, in which he wrote of the significant value of NEFW. "Why is this week so important?" wrote Kersey. "Because no one should feel forced to pay money to a union as a condition of holding a job. Whether you support unions or not, everyone deserves to know what their rights are so they can make a choice that works for them."

The National Employee Freedom Week website displays alternative options for union members who don't want to send large chunks of their hard-earned salaries to union bosses. Workers should have the freedom to join a union if they so choose, but they also should be allowed to opt out at any time, whenever they determine the union ceases to represent their interests.

WHAT WE'RE WORKING ON

Budget & Tax

NFL Star Calls for End of Stadium Subsidies

Ben Johnson wrote in *Budget & Tax News* about a recent ESPN interview with Seattle Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman. Sherman, a star defensive player in the National Football League, voiced his opposition to taxpayer-funded stadiums for private sports teams. Johnson examines the stadium subsidy issue in greater depth, citing J.C. Bradbury, an economist and professor of sports management at Kennesaw State University, who says sports stadium subsidies don't just fail to provide economic benefits to communities, they often damage cities' economic health. "Economists have conducted many studies of the economic impact of stadiums, and the clear consensus is that they don't just not meet the promises of big returns, but the returns are normally negative," Bradbury said." [Read more](#)

Education

Texas Lawmaker to Revive Bill Establishing Education Savings Accounts

Kenneth Artz, news reporter for The Heartland Institute, writes on Texas state Rep. Don Huffines' (R-Dallas) continuing efforts to bring an education savings account (ESA) program to the Lone Star State. Huffines originally introduced Senate Bill 1178, which would have directed the Texas Education Agency "to conduct a study on implementing an education savings account program," in 2015, but it was defeated in the state's lower legislative chamber. He plans on introducing a similar bill in 2017. "If public schools don't work, it's important to give the kids an option," Huffines said. "One size doesn't fit all, so parents and students need to be empowered with the most comprehensive school choice plan possible." If an ESA bill is signed into law, Texas would become only the sixth state to have adopted this important reform. [Read more](#)

Energy & Environment

Podcast: Exposing the Mad War on Energy

In today's edition of *The Heartland Daily Podcast*, Kathleen Hartnett White, director at the Armstrong Center for Energy and the Environment at the Texas Public Policy Foundation, speaks with Managing Editor of *Environment & Climate News* H. Sterling Burnett. White joins the show to talk about the new book she co-authored with Stephen Moore, titled *Fueling Freedom: Exposing the Mad War on Energy!* White says during the interview the present war on fossil fuels is immoral and bad for the environment, and she explains in detail how the two major political party platforms differ on energy and



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environment issues. [Read more](#)

Health Care

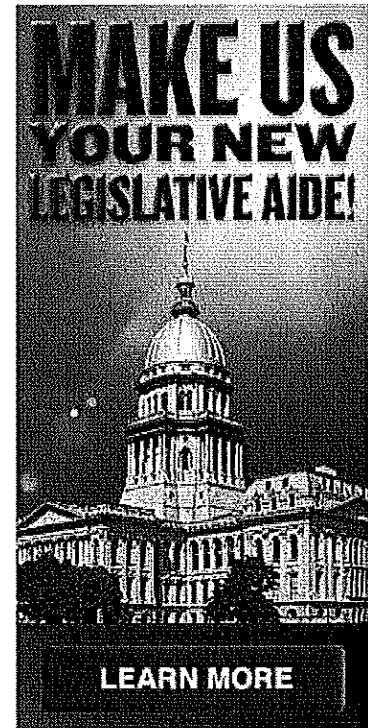
Dr. Jeffrey English: Bring Doctors to Patients with Telemedicine

In this episode of the *Health Care News Podcast*, Managing Editor Michael Hamilton speaks with Dr. Jeffrey English about the benefits of telemedicine. English says telemedicine is pushing back the new frontier of patient-centered, cost-effective health care innovation. The conversation focuses on why English made the leap to telemedicine, how telemedicine is delivering high-quality health care to patients with restricted access, limitations on telemedicine providers' ability to care for patients, and how government policies are contributing to or obstructing telemedicine innovations from flourishing. [Read more](#)

From Our Free-Market Friends

American Lands Council: Government to Blame for Less Public Access

Access to federal and state public lands remains an important issue around the nation. Public lands are held in public ownership for present and future generations. Only the U.S. Congress can change public land laws, and even if they do pass legislation, the bill still must be signed by the president, who has the power to unilaterally control (and often prevent) economic activity on millions of acres of federal and state public lands. Jack D. Jones, a wildlife biologist with the Montana Bureau of Land Management, argues in this article political rhetoric falls far short of addressing the real issue. "No, it's not all about an opened fishing access site along the east Gallatin River," said Jones. "The issue is larger - related to the lands in Montana the majority of these lands which now approach 65 percent are closed off to the public and who closed them." [Read more](#)



POLICY NEWSPAPER



The July issue of *Budget & Tax News* reports Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam signed a measure repealing the state's Hall tax on interest and investment dividends, the state's only tax on an individual's income. The measure phases out the tax over five years. Justin Owen, president of the Beacon Center of Tennessee, expects the repeal to be good for the state's economy, noting,

"We have talked to numerous investors and job creators who have moved out of Tennessee because of the Hall tax. By eliminating it, we hope to bring those Tennesseans home, while also encouraging others to move into our state."

[Environment & Climate News](#)

[Health Care News](#)

[School Reform News](#)

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From: GOPAC Education Fund

Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 9:35 AM

To: Rep88

Subject: Indiana Senate Majority Leader Brandt Hershman on conservative ideas in Indiana

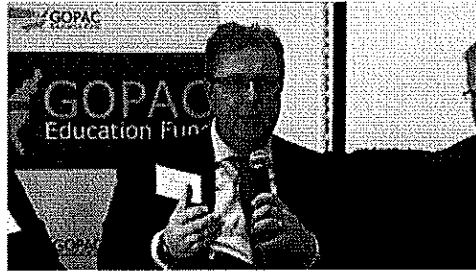


Imagine. Share. Impact.

In our latest video from *Imagine. Share. Impact.*, Indiana Senate Majority Leader and GOPAC Advisory Board Member Brandt Hershman discusses how conservative ideas have created an environment in Indiana where more people are working than at any point in the state's history and how conservatives need to link success stories at the state level to the national election.

"I can tell you that Indiana has done a number of things over the years... We've lowered business taxes, lowered personal income taxes, gotten rid of the inheritance tax, capped property taxes. We've grown revenue even through those cuts because new investments in jobs have come in to grow our economic pie. We passed Right to Work. We deregulated our telecommunications environment. We have a conservative-driven Medicaid policy based on individual responsibility. All of those things are the core principles of who we are as conservatives."

[Click Here to Watch Video:](#)



Subscribe to our [YouTube channel](#) and follow us on Twitter ([@GOPACedu](#)) to keep up with our video series, [#ImagineShareImpact!](#)

###

www.GOPACeducate.org

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From: Heartland Institute: The Government Relations Team

Sent: Thursday, September 8, 2016 2:00 PM

To: Rep88

Subject: The Leaflet - Missed Heartland's Emerging Issues Forum in Chicago?
Watch It Online!



Missed Heartland's Emerging Issues Forum in Chicago? Watch It Online!

On August 9, The Heartland Institute hosted its first 2016 Emerging Issues Forum (EIF). More than 80 state elected officials and policy experts attended the Summer EIF event in Chicago, Illinois.

New Hampshire state Rep. Bill Ohm (R-Hillsborough) praised Heartland's summer EIF event, stating, "The conference offered excellent presentations by qualified speakers on practical solutions to long-term problems."

If you missed Heartland's Summer EIF event, you can watch each of the four panels held during the event online on Heartland's [YouTube channel](#).

The health care panel featured Cato Institute Senior Fellow Michael Tanner, Opternative Chief Executive Officer Aaron Dallek, and Georgia state Sen. Judson Hill (R-Cobb County). The panelists discussed how states can expand competition and reduce the cost of health care - even with the Affordable Care Act in place. The solutions offered include using telemedicine, rolling back certificate of need laws, and embracing direct primary care. The panel also addressed Medicaid expansion. [Video](#)

The education panel featured Goldwater Institute Education Director Jonathan Butcher, Heritage Foundation Fellow Lindsey Burke, and Illinois state Rep. John Anthony (R-Grundy County). The panelists discussed how education outcomes in America continue to lag globally; the ongoing debate about Common Core State Standards; and educational choice options, such as education savings accounts and charter schools. Panelists also analyzed roadblocks to transforming education and explored ways to improve access to a quality education. [Video](#)

Video

The budget and tax panel featured Joe Henchman, vice president of legal and state projects for the Tax Foundation, National Taxpayers Union Executive Vice President Brandon Arnold, and Heartland Government Relations Director John Nothdurft. The panelists discussed ways states are seeking to create a better business climate to attract jobs and businesses to their states. The panelists also discussed right-to-work laws, tax reform, and reforming public pension

systems and debated which policies are working and which are not. [Video](#)

Stay tuned as Heartland prepares to host its [Winter EIF in Orlando, Florida on December 15-17.](#)

WHAT WE'RE WORKING ON

Budget & Tax

Research & Commentary: States Moving Away from Sales Tax Holidays

Since 1980, state and local governments have used sales tax holidays as a popular tool to encourage certain types of consumer activity. Sales tax holidays temporarily exempt or lower state and/or local sales taxes for certain kinds of products. Recently, after years of continued expansions of sales tax holidays amongst the states, the trend has started to reverse. In this *Research & Commentary*, Senior Policy Analyst Matthew Glans examines sales tax holidays. Glans says they are a gimmick that benefit only a small number of companies and are used to hide larger, more significant problems with a state's tax code. "Despite their popularity with legislators and some consumers, sales tax holidays are not sound tax policy. Tax holidays attempt to mask the wider problems in a sales tax system by giving consumers temporary relief rather than fixing the actual problem." [Read more](#)

Education

Common Core: A Bad Choice for America (Second Edition)

In 2010, every state but Alaska, Nebraska, Texas, and Virginia adopted Common Core education standards, a set of education requirements for the nation's elementary and secondary school children that lay out what every student should know at each grade level in math and English language arts. The initiative represents a dramatic centralization of authority over the nation's historically decentralized K-12 education system. In this second edition of *Common Core: A Bad Choice for America*, Author Joy Pullmann, a research fellow on education policy, says though proponents insist Common Core originated in a "state-led" process, the truth is a group of private trade organizations commissioned a small group of consultants to write Common Core behind closed doors. "This elite-driven, closed-doors process created a set of what can accurately be described as mediocre mandates. While proponents say Common Core is 'internationally benchmarked' and 'rigorous,' independent scholars conclude Common Core will graduate students prepared at best for a two-year community college. Several states had better standards in place before



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they adopted Common Core.” [Read more](#)

Energy & Environment

Research & Commentary: Study Says South Texas Fracking Not a Risk to Air Quality

In this *Research & Commentary*, Policy Analyst Tim Benson writes how researchers at the University of Texas-Arlington’s Collaborative Laboratories for Environmental Analysis and Remediation have conducted a study on ambient emissions at hydraulic fracturing sites in the Eagle Ford shale in Southwest Texas and found the emissions to be within the acceptable federal standard. The study examined ambient benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene, and xylene (BTEX) at fracking sites in 13 different counties using over 12,800 mass spectrometry measurements. While these BTEX compounds did register around fracking sites, their concentrations were very small. The authors also found these emissions are not the result of the fracking process itself; they emanate from various onsite activities that were carried out poorly and inefficiently. Benson says the study reinforces the claim drilling is currently being conducted in Texas in a safe and responsible manner, and Benson says there is no scientific justification for banning hydraulic fracturing or over-regulating it out of existence. [Read more](#)

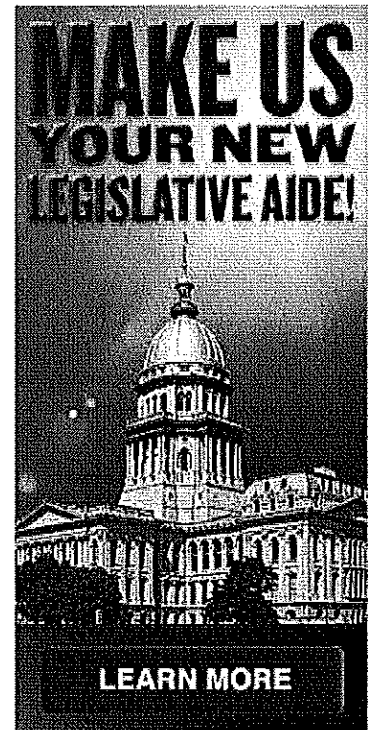
Health Care

Research & Commentary: Florida Should Allow for Dental Therapists

A growing number of states and tribal communities are allowing dentists to employ dental therapists to help meet the growing need for routine dental care. Unfortunately, Florida is one of the many states that has not reformed dental licensing laws to allow for dental therapists. In this *Research & Commentary*, State Government Relations Manager Logan Elizabeth Pike examines dental therapists in the State of Florida and encourages Florida lawmakers to reform their licensing laws in order to allow for them to practice. “The field of dentistry is changing, and states desperately need to reform the care delivery system to address oral-health needs. Regular access to basic check-ups can prevent the majority of painful and costly dental issues.” [Read more](#)

From Our Free-Market Friends

Mackinac Center Event: How Pensions Are Bankrupting Cities and States and How to Fix It
[Register here](#)



POLICY NEWSPAPER



The July issue of *Health Care News* reports House Republican leaders plan to release immediately before the Republican National Convention a party-wide plan to repeal and replace the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, aka Obamacare. Caitlin Carroll, communications director for the Republican Study Committee, said “any plan that dismantles Obamacare and moves [the country]

toward patient-centered reform should be considered as part of the House's ongoing discussion of what a conservative health care reform plan should look like."

Budget & Tax News

Environment & Climate News

School Reform News

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From: Roger Beckett
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 9:37 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: Ashbrook to Host Cleveland 19 News for Tonight's Debate Coverage

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Good morning,

As the nation's attention turns to the presidential debate tonight, we encourage those in the viewing area to tune in to WOIO Cleveland 19 News for debate coverage featuring a special segment live from Ashbrook.

At 11:00 pm. you will hear from a group of local panelists (including a few Ashbrook Scholars) who will share their immediate reaction to the debate.

This portion of the post-debate coverage will be broadcast live from the Ashbrook Center at Ashland University!

Best regards,

Roger L. Beckett
Executive Director

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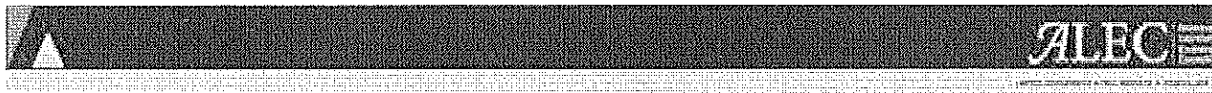
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From: Jonathan Williams
Sent: Saturday, October 8, 2016 2:57 PM
To: Rep88
Subject: Special Invitation: Trillions in pension liabilities – how does your state rank?



Center for State Fiscal Reform

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to announce the October 13 release of our latest report highlighting unfunded pension liability estimates by state. Using more realistic valuation methods, the new study finds that pension debt nationwide is vastly worse than official government figures suggest.

I will join my co-author Bob Williams to present the findings on a special pre-release conference call. I hope you can join us to learn how your state ranks:

- **WHAT:** Pre-release conference call to preview new unfunded pension liability estimates
- **WHEN:** Tuesday, October 11, at 11:00 AM Eastern
- **RSVP:** Christine Smith at csmith@alec.org

If you are interested in writing an article or blog post on this issue, please contact me for an embargoed copy of our report.

All the best,

Jonathan Williams

Vice President | ALEC Center for State Fiscal Reform

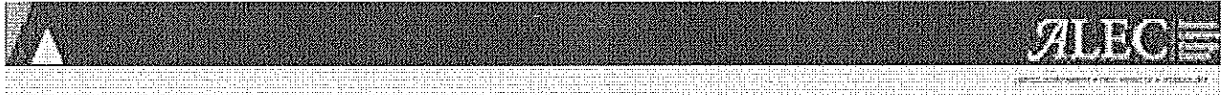
jwilliams@alec.org | [@taxeconomist](https://twitter.com/taxeconomist)

571.482.5066

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Dear Friends,

I am pleased to announce the October 13 release of our latest report highlighting unfunded pension liability estimates by state. Using more realistic valuation methods, the new study finds that pension debt nationwide is vastly worse than official government figures suggest.

I will join my co-author Bob Williams to present the findings on a special pre-release conference call. I hope you can join us to learn how your state ranks:

- **WHAT:** Pre-release conference call to preview new unfunded pension liability estimates
- **WHEN:** Tuesday, October 11, at 11:00 AM Eastern
- **RSVP:** Christine Smith at csmith@alec.org

If you are interested in writing an article or blog post on this issue, please contact me for an embargoed copy of our report.

All the best,

Jonathan Williams
Vice President | ALEC Center for State Fiscal Reform
jwilliams@alec.org | [@taxeconomist](https://twitter.com/taxeconomist)
571.482.5066

This email was sent by: American Legislative Exchange Council 2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600 Arlington, VA 22202 United States
This email was sent to: rep88@ohiohouse.gov

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From: Stuart Gardner
Sent: Sunday, October 9, 2016 9:53 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: Senate Bill 329

Click To View Documents: [Preview attachment sb329_02_PS.pdf](#)sb329_02_PS.pdf225 KB.webloc (OKB);

Honorable House Representative,

The Republican controlled Senate is at it again,

I am coping this article that appeared in the Gongwer Ohio News Report on October 6, 2016, dated October 3, 2016.

Sunset Bill: Policy Matters Ohio, in a new blog post, labeled a recently passed Senate bill "a blitzkrieg attack on public services."The group's post centered on a bill (SB 329) from Senate President Keith Faber and Sen. Kris Jordan (R-Ostrander) that would automatically sunset state agencies every two years without a legislative vote. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, September 28, 2016)

"No one would seriously suggest that we shut down all our universities, prisons and nursing homes, lay off all our state highway patrol officers and end all projects to keep up our roads and bridges," the group wrote. "If these things are going to continue, why impose a needless, time-consuming and expensive process of asking whether they should? These institutions do not need to demonstrate a public need for their continued existence; that is self-evident."Proponents of the measure, which is now awaiting consideration by the House, say the bill marks a step toward greater government accountability.

Within this bill (listed on pages 2 & 3), virtually lists all Departments within the state Government. Those that would affect our SMART-TD union and members directly or indirectly:

1. The Department of Health
2. The Department of Public Health
3. The Department of Public Safety
4. The Department of Transportation
5. The Department of Insurance
6. The Public Utilities Commission

SB 329 was introduced in the House on 10/05/2016 but has not been assigned a

Committee as of today.

Democrat Minority Leader - Joe Schiavoni - believes that this very bad bill, it will be used as leverage by the Legislature vs. the Governor whenever the Legislature doesn't like a certain agency or person in that agency, to shut it down.

Here is what was just sent to our office from Senator Schiavoni:

The General Assembly already has the authority to do most of what's in this bill

- ? The Senate and House of Representatives already have the power to investigate state agencies and departments through existing committees. And the General Assembly can repeal or eliminate almost every department and program using current law.
- ? The Senate President sets the session calendar. Committee Chairpersons hold hearings and can issue subpoenas with approval from the Senate President.
- ? BOTTOM LINE: We could start this tomorrow if we wanted to. Under this bill, legislators would not be held accountable
- ? If legislators believe a state agency or department should be abolished, then they should have the courage to cast a vote to eliminate it. But, SB 329 enables them to avoid tough votes.
- ? SB 329 does not require a vote or a review to eliminate an agency or department.
- ? The General Assembly could do nothing and an agency or department would simply expire.
- ? Voting records are everything. If there's no vote, no one can hold them accountable.

We know that abusing this power could happen because we've seen it done

- ? Future governors could be held hostage by legislative leaders who could eliminate departments and agencies without casting a single vote.
- ? Under this bill, the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate have total control over whether or not a Department gets a vote.
- ? EXAMPLE: Just this year, legislators threatened to strip the power of the CIIC, the prison watchdog committee, until its leader agreed to step down.

This bill is taken from the ALEC Playbook

- ? The original ALEC proposal called for a review once every 10 years and gave the executive branch a role to play in the review process.

o SB 329 calls for reviews about every four years and the Governor would not be part of it

- ? (if Faber mentions Texas example) Texas is an example of a state with a similar sunset review

process BUT it's different and better than what's proposed in SB 329.

o Texas has 20 full time staffers and a multi-million dollar budget to review agencies and

departments on the average of once every 12 years.

This bill could bring the same dysfunctional "D.C. style" politics to the Statehouse

- ? We've seen what's happened in Washington with government shutdowns and constant battles between Congress and the White House.
- ? It's the reason there's only eight justices right now on the U.S. Supreme Court.
- ? We're concerned Our founding fathers believed in a system of checks and balances to make sure no

single branch of government has too much power.

- ? SB 329 is more than just "re-asserting legislative authority", it's a power grab to weaken the

executive and to eliminate or privatize key functions of government.

This Bill also takes the power of all of the elected Legislators who represent their constituents, out of their hands, and puts the power into the hands of the very few.

If this Bill is passed and signed by the Governor, this bill will become our next "SB5" to rescind by a referendum vote by the citizens of Ohio.

- See more at: <http://www.gongwer->

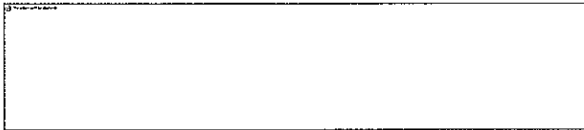
oh.com/programming/news.cfm#sthash.9npF3ZSG.dpuf

I have also attached SB 329 As Passed by the Senate:

Fraternally yours,

Stu

Stuart W. Gardner
Chairman & State Legislative Director
Ohio State Legislative Board
SMART - Transportation Division (formerly the United Transportation Union)
167 South State Street
Suite 245
Westerville, Ohio 43081-2265
Email: smartunionoslb@gmail.com
Office #: [614-392-2236](tel:614-392-2236)
Cell: [614-441-5228](tel:614-441-5228)
Fax #: [614-392-2244](tel:614-392-2244)



From: NCSL TODAY

Sent: Monday, October 10, 2016 10:53 AM

To: Rep88

Subject: Unions fight ballot efforts to constitutionalize right to work

NCSL Today | [Manage your subscription](#)



TOP NEWS Oct. 10, 2016

Unions fight ballot efforts to constitutionalize right to work

Governing

Right-to-work laws, which limit the power of labor unions, have been around for decades. Now business leaders and Republican lawmakers in two states want to make them permanent.

The politics of social media

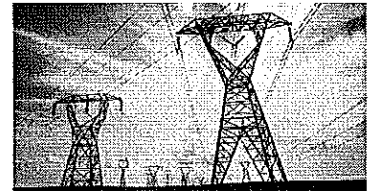
State Net Capitol Journal

Like it or not, social media sites like Facebook, Twitter, Periscope and Snapchat have become an indispensable part of political campaigns and the vast majority of lawmakers' offices.

Political battle over lawmakers' pay heads to Minnesota voters

Associated Press

Far below the ballot ovals for the presidential race, Minnesota



FEATURED

Energy, environment transportation federal newsletters

These newsletters include news stories, legislation, events, resources and more from federal and state agencies, legislatures, the federal administration and other policy stakeholders.

voters will answer a critical question that has vexed state lawmakers for years: Should they be setting their own pay?

California recycling crisis sends billions of bottles, cans into landfill

Bloomberg

About 90 percent of the 8 billion soda cans sold in California every year get turned in for recycling and a 5¢ refund. But cheaper commodity prices, plus lower Chinese demand for America's used bottles and cans, have upended the economics of the state's recycling industry.

Obama administration is quietly delaying thousands of deportation cases

The New York Times

The Obama administration is delaying deportation proceedings for recent immigrants in cities across the United States, allowing more than 56,000 of those who fled Central America since 2014 to remain in the country legally for several more years.

New York state to eliminate cash option for paying tolls

The New York Times

Instead of charging drivers who are stopped at toll plazas, the authority will use sensors and cameras to automatically charge cars that have been equipped with E-ZPass; those without it will have their license plates recorded by camera, and a bill will be mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle.



Webinar Oct. 20: Infant and early childhood mental health

Capitol to Capitol

Bill information service training Oct. 18



State legislators are dropping and giving 'em 22

State legislators around the country are dropping and giving 22 pushups in an effort to raise awareness about veterans' suicide prevention.



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Denver: 303-364-7700
Washington: 202-624-5400

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From: Roger Beckett
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2016 7:25 PM
To: Rep88
Subject: Join Ashbrook for Dinner and a Major Issue Lecture This Thursday



Join Ashbrook on Thursday, October 20 for dinner and a **Major Issues Lecture** with Cal Thomas, nationally syndicated political columnist.

Cal Thomas will be speaking on ***"How We Got Here and Where We are Going if Things Don't Change; What Works: Common Sense Solutions for a Stronger America."***

The event is at 7 pm and will be held at Myers Convocation Center at Ashland University.

One of the most widely syndicated political columnists in America, Cal Thomas has been provoking discussion and debate for more than 30 years. Thomas takes an unwavering stand for traditional conservative values and American "can-do spirit" that transcends political parties.

Thomas examines hot-button issues in America and the world, whether they are the growing threat of terrorism, racial tension, economic decline, or a range of social and cultural developments. His three decades as a columnist, and more as an author, broadcaster, and speaker - including access to world leaders, U.S. presidents, celebrities, educators, and countless others gives his columns a perspective unique in political commentary.

A graduate of American University, Thomas has worked for NBC, CNBC, PBS television, and the Fox News Network. He has appeared on "NBC Nightly News," "Nightline," the "Today" show, "Good Morning America," CNN's "Crossfire," "Larry King Live," and "The Oprah Winfrey Show."

Thomas has authored 12 books, including *Blinded by Might: Why the Religious Right Can, The Things That Matter Most, The Wit and Wisdom of Cal Thomas, The Death of Ethics in America, A Freedom Dream*, and more. His latest book is *What Works: Common Sense Solutions for a Stronger America*.

To order tickets or for more information, please visit our website.

Please contact Jen Nixon with any questions at jnixon@ashbrook.org or 419-289-5411.

The Ashbrook Center seeks to restore and strengthen the capacities of the American people for constitutional self-government. Through undergraduate, graduate, and civic programs, the Ashbrook Center aspires to be the leading national educator in the enduring principles and practice of free government in the United States.

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Ashbrook Center

401 College Avenue, Ashland, OH 44805

= 9

From: Roger Beckett

Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 2:35 PM

To: Rep88

Subject: Ashbrook to Host Cleveland 19 News for Tonight's Debate Coverage

= A



Good afternoon,

As the nation's attention turns to the final presidential debate tonight, we encourage those in the viewing area to tune in to WOIO Cleveland 19 News for debate coverage featuring a special segment live from Ashbrook.

At 11:00 pm. you will hear from a group of local panelists (including some of our Ashbrook Scholars) who will share their immediate reaction to the debate.

This portion of the post-debate coverage will again be broadcast live from the Ashbrook Center at Ashland University!

Best regards,

Roger L. Beckett
Executive Director

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401 College Avenue, Ashland, OH 44805= A

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From: jhhorvath1@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2016 10:49 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: HB 583 Wrong for Ohioans!

First Name : John

Last Name : Horvath

Address : 29120 Foote Rd

City : Bay Village

State : OH

Zip : 44140

Phone : 216.702.5940

Email : jhhorvath1@gmail.com

Subject :
HB 583 Wrong for Ohioans!

Message :
I object to the aims of HB 583, and you should, too.

HB 583 is another attempt to introduce "Right To Work" in Ohio. HB 377 is wrong for working- and middle-class families. Wrong for Ohio. Wrong for all of us!

It's Unsafe: in Right to Work states, the death rates on the job are 36% higher. Our workers are safer in Ohio.

Wages: All workers earn less money in "Right to Work" states. The median household income is \$535 less each month.

The same people who wanted to take away our collective bargaining rights with Senate Bill 5, the unfair, unsafe attack on us all, now suddenly want to give us more rights and more freedom on the job? Really? The people of Ohio overwhelmingly defeated SB 5, in 2011.

When was the last time billionaires spent millions of dollars to give you more rights and freedom in the workplace?

"Right to Work" is wrong and does not create jobs.

There is bipartisan opposition to "Right To Work." We Are Ohio is a non-partisan, grassroots, citizen-driven coalition of Republican, Democratic and Independent faith leaders, elected officials, business owners, working people and voters who understand that Right To Work Is wrong for Ohio.

Don't march in lockstep -- do the right thing! Be a leader!

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From: Heartland Institute: The Government Relations Team
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2016 10:01 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: The Leaflet - Happy Thanksgiving from The Heartland Institute

the leaflet

Weekly policy updates from
THE HEARTLAND INSTITUTE 

Happy Thanksgiving from The Heartland Institute

"The ground of liberty is to be gained by inches, and we must be contented to secure what we can get from time to time and eternally press forward for what is yet to get. It takes time to persuade men to do even what is for their own good." - Thomas Jefferson

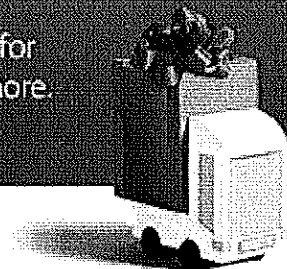
Thanksgiving is the perfect time to give thanks to all those who are near and dear to us. This Thanksgiving, The Heartland Institute is grateful for our Legislative Forum members, elected officials, the men and women serving our country, our donors, allies, and all of the friends who support Heartland's work to promote free-market solutions to our nation's social and economic problems.

From all of us at The Heartland Institute, we wish you a safe and happy Thanksgiving that's filled with food, family, and free-market principles! Please don't forget to support The Heartland Institute when you shop on Black Friday and Cyber Monday by using #StartWithaSmile at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-3309812>. When you do, Amazon will make a donation to The Heartland Institute.

Support us on Black Friday
& Cyber Monday

#StartWithaSmile at smile.amazon.com for
all your holiday gifts, decorations, and more.
You shop. Amazon gives.

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WHAT WE'RE WORKING ON

Budget and Tax

Research & Commentary: Right-to-Work Reform in New Hampshire

West Virginia recently became the nation's 26th right-to-work (RTW) state, and several other states are now considering becoming the 27th, including New Hampshire. Right-to-work policies have become increasingly popular nationwide. Since 2012, four states have enacted right-to-work legislation. RTW laws allow employees the option to join or refuse to join a union, pay fees or other charges to a union, or pay any third party or charity instead of paying a union. In this *Research & Commentary*, Senior Policy Analyst Matthew Glans examines right-to-work reform proposals in New Hampshire. "Right-to-work laws create new jobs and foster economic and population growth. New Hampshire lawmakers should consider implementing right-to-work legislation, a decision that is sure to reap significant economic benefits," Glans wrote. [Read more](#)

Education

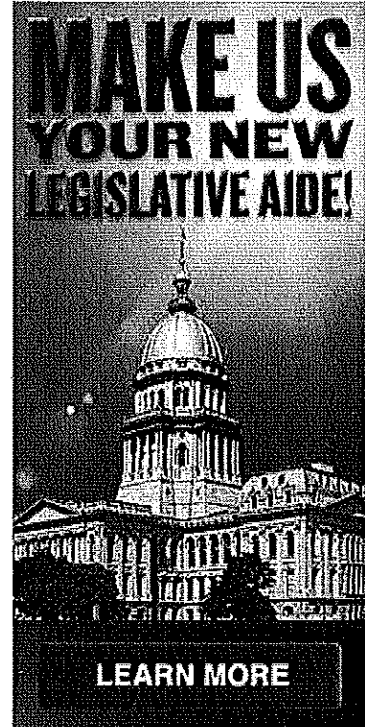
Research & Commentary: Tax Credit Scholarships Save Taxpayers, School Districts Money

In this *Research & Commentary*, Policy Analyst Tim Benson discusses an audit by EdChoice, formerly the Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, of the 10 largest (of the country's 21) tax credit scholarship programs. EdChoice says the top 10 programs have saved between \$1.7 billion and \$3.4 billion through 2014, or about \$1,750 to \$3,000 saved per student. [Read more](#)

Energy and Environment

Research & Commentary: Wyoming DEQ: Hydraulic Fracturing Site Not Contaminating Drinking Water

The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality released its highly anticipated 80,000-page final report on hydraulic fracturing, commonly called "fracking," and other drilling for natural gas conducted near the town of Pavillion. The report concluded drilling activity did not contaminate well water there and that any contaminants found in those wells were likely to have occurred naturally. In this *Research & Commentary*, Policy Analyst Tim Benson examines the report. Benson notes the report further undercuts the hysteric claims made by anti-fracking activists; the study says there have been at least 15 peer-reviewed studies since 2010 that show fracking does not contaminate groundwater. "Regulation," Benson says, "should only be based on the best available scientific



POLICY NEWSPAPER



The November issue of *School Reform News* reports on a brewing scandal in New York City, where the results of Common Core-aligned exams show significant gains in student proficiency,

literature, not on wild, unfounded claims based on misinformation, fear, and superstition.” [Read more](#)

Health Care

Research & Commentary: Drug Price Controls and Price Transparency

While drug companies have argued for many years their prices are competitive and determined by the cost of development, critics say new laws are needed that would set the price of prescription drugs at “fair” rates. These critics say this form of market manipulation is necessary to guarantee access to pharmaceutical drugs for all people. There are two approaches state legislatures have taken to address the price of medications: transparency requirements and price controls. In this *Research & Commentary*, Senior Policy Analyst Matthew Glans examines drug price controls and price transparency. “Price caps are vague, obtrusive, and give far too much control over the pharmaceutical market to government regulators. Price gouging can be a problem, but price controls are not the answer. Instead of killing the free market and innovation in the pharmaceutical industry, state lawmakers should promote transparency and let the market and legal system monitor drug prices,” wrote Glans. [Read more](#)

From Our Free-Market Friends

2017 State Business Tax Climate Index

In October, The Tax Foundation released its 13th annual edition of the *State Business Tax Climate Index*, which measures how competitive and well-structured each state’s tax code is for businesses within the state. The Tax Foundation analyzed over 100 tax variables in five different categories—corporate, individual income, sales, property, and unemployment insurance taxes—to formulate its index and create its rankings. Wyoming once again finished first in The Tax Foundation’s index, as it did in 2016, while New Jersey finished last for the third year in a row. [Read more](#)

leading some to wonder whether the test scores are inflated. The *New York Post*, dubbing the situation “Inflate-gate,” reported, “The state has lowered the number of correct answers that students need to pass [on] 11 out of 12 Common Core exams this year, casting doubt on an across-the-board increase in NYC pass rates.”

Budget & Tax News

Health Care News

Environment & Climate News

Heartland Institute



The Heartland Institute is a 32-year-old national non-profit organization dedicated to discovering, developing, and promoting free-market solutions to economic and social problems.

Our Websites

[The Heartland Institute](#)
[Heartlander Magazine](#)
[PolicyBot](#)
[Somewhat Reasonable](#)
[The Parent Trigger](#)
[Climate Conference](#)

This message was sent to rep88@ohiohouse.gov from:

Heartland Institute: The Government Relations Team | nmakla@heartland.org |

Diane Bast | 3939 North Wilke Road | Arlington Heights, IL 60004

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From: Alex Boehnke

Sent: Wednesday, December 7, 2016 9:46 AM

To: Alex Boehnke

Subject: Ohio Council of Retail Merchants Letter of Support SB 331

Dear Representative,

The Ohio Council of Retail Merchants urges favorable passage of Senate Bill 331.

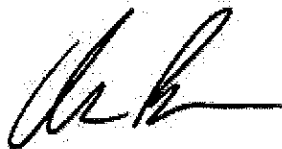
This legislation contains sensible reforms that will help ensure and maintain a positive business climate in the state of Ohio. Recently, special interest groups – some backed by interests outside of Ohio – have pushed job-killing initiatives in various municipalities across the state. These proposals often call for drastic wage mandates and new stringent regulations on employers in regard to scheduling, benefits, hours of work. If implemented, these measures would create a patchwork of regulations resulting in increased uncertainty for businesses and job loss. Senate Bill 331 remedies these pressing issues.

For over 100 years, Section 34, Article II, of the Ohio Constitution has given the General Assembly exclusive constitutional authority to enact laws related to the workplace. Senate Bill 331 is congruent with our State's Constitution. The legislation guarantees uniformity with minimum wage while also expressly declaring that the hours and types of hours that employees work (such as the type of shift) are exclusively the product of the employer-employee relationship. Similarly, it provides for the "comfort, health, safety, and general welfare" of employees by leaving the question of whether or not private employers must or should provide fringe benefits to the employer-employee relationship.

The bill, in addition, does not interfere in any way with the rights of public employers to structure their relationship with their own employees in any way they see fit. Nor does Senate Bill 331 interfere with employment contracts or collective bargaining rights in either the public or private sector.

In summary, on behalf of over 7,400 Ohio businesses and representing an industry which employs one out of every four Ohioans, we strongly urge passage of Senate Bill 331.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Boehnke', written in a cursive style.

Alex T. Boehnke

Manager of Public Affairs | The Ohio Council of Retail Merchants

Office: 614-221-7833 | Cell: 937-623-2073

50 W. Broad St., Ste. 1111

Columbus, OH 43215

AlexB@ohioretailmerchants.com

www.ocrm.net



From: anuzisforchair.activehosted.com@s5.acemsvf.com on behalf of Saul Anuzis
[sanuzis@saulsnewsstand.com]

Sent: Sunday, December 11, 2016 4:56 AM

To: Rep88

Subject: Saul's Newsstand - Weekly Review 12-11-16



SAUL'S NEWSSTAND

More political news, faster. Curated by Saul Anuzis

www.saulsnewsstand.com

Saul's Newsstand - Weekly Review 12-11-16

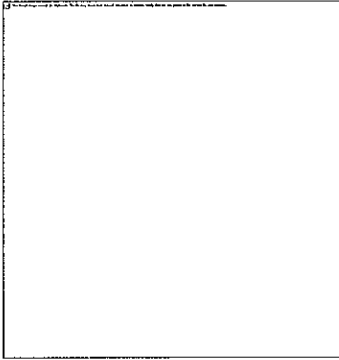
Saul Anuzis

President Elect Trump Continues to Surprise

You have to love the fact when the main stream media started complaining about all the "billionaires" and "generals" Trump was appointing to his cabinet...without hesitating he shot back that "off course" that's who is appointing. He wants successful and accomplished leaders in their respective fields to lead our nation! NO political correctness. NO apologies. NO back peddling.

Trump is building a team that's going to make this happen...yes,
Make America Great Again!

It's hard to find someone not pleasantly surprised, impressed and encouraged by his picks and leadership.



Ronna Romney McDaniel for RNC Chairman

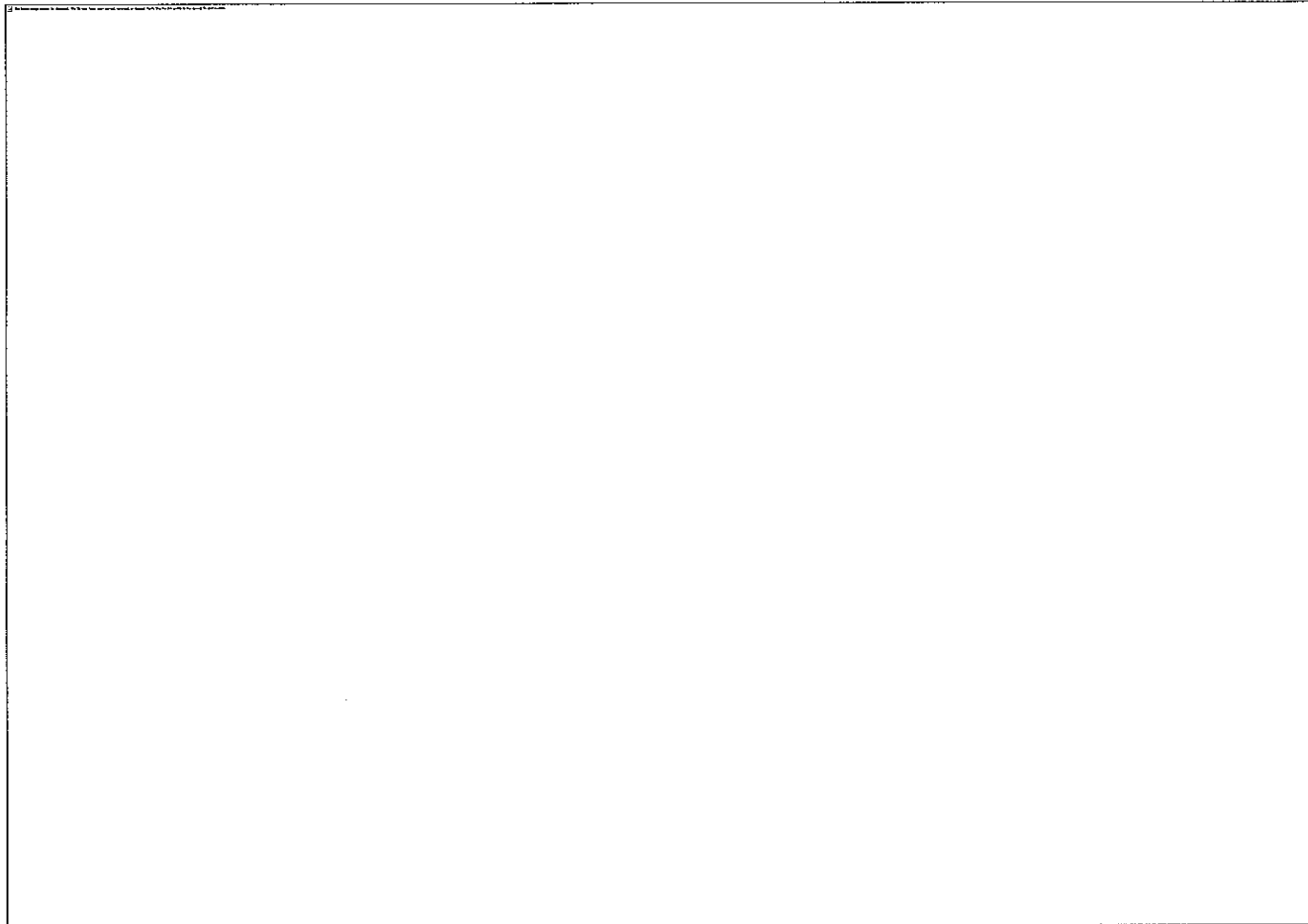
Rumors are circulating that Ronna is one of the finalist that President Elect Trump will recommend to lead the Republican National Committee.

Ronna led an impressive effort in Michigan that delivered a working class, purple state at best on behalf of Trump. She understands the dynamics of the Trump Movement and can effectively help build a national party that grows our party.

Ronna is a dynamic, effective, strategic and loyal team player who would serve the President Elect well.

As a young women, she symbolizes and represents the best our party has and can help lead a national effort to reach new voters, new demographics and new constituents to build on the Trump coalition that built this movement.

If the President Elect picks Ronna Romney McDaniel to lead our party...he will once again demonstrate his strategic understanding and determination to build a lasting movement.



The Spoils of the Republican State Conquest

In the war of ideas, a think tank is like a munitions factory, churning out the matériel to push the trench line a few miles forward. As luck would have it, Republican state lawmakers will be well equipped next year when they begin one of the largest conservative offensives in recent memory. Come January the

GOP will hold "trifectas"—total control of both legislative chambers and the governorship—in 25 states, up from 10 in 2009.

If lawmakers have any questions about where to begin, one place with answers is the State Policy Network, a federation of 65 free-market think tanks ranging from Anchorage, Alaska, to San Juan, Puerto Rico. "At the end of the day, people want jobs. They want security. That's our bread and butter," says Tracie Sharp, the group's president. "We feel like for such a time as this, we've built up this network. We need to really run. This is a state moment."

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/the-spoils-of-the-republican-state-conquest-1481326770>

Donald Trump Has Disrupted Years of Broken Taiwan Policy

Mr. Trump is now the butt of similarly ill-informed commentary by both media figures and former U.S. diplomats who should know better. For the record, let me interject that the United States does not now recognize, and never has, a "One China" of which Taiwan is a part.

The December 15, 1978, U.S.-China Normalization Communiqué states that the U.S. side "acknowledges the Chinese position that there is but one China and Taiwan is part of China." It is often forgotten that two months later, on February 22, 1979, President

Carter's deputy secretary of state, Warren Christopher, explained in Senate hearings that the United States has "acknowledged the Chinese position that Taiwan is part of China, but the United States has *not* [italics in original] itself agreed to this position." This remains the position of the United States today.

On the matter of U.S. arms sales to Taiwan, which the Chinese have so strenuously resisted, I recall during my tenure on the Taiwan desk in 1982 that Chinese diplomats demanded that President Reagan honor President Carter's "pledge" to terminate arms sales to Taiwan after normalization. China demanded that Reagan issue another communiqué promising to cease arms transfers to Taiwan. James Lilley, President Reagan's top China advisor in the White House, asked President Carter about this pledge, and the former president said, "I never made such a commitment. I can tell you that I wouldn't have made it." Reagan then ordered that thenceforth communiqué negotiations with Beijing be grounded in the understanding that no "pledge" was ever issued and that arms sales to Taiwan would be eased off only on the understanding that China pursued a peaceful resolution of its differences with Taiwan.

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/donald-trump-has-disrupted-years-broken-taiwan-policy-18609>

Trump, Taiwan and an Uproar: Putting China on the defensive.

Taiwan is no more important in 2016 than it was in 1972. Accepting the one-China policy never shifted the fundamental reality of Taiwan-U.S. relations, but it gave cover for the Chinese in a strategic context that has long ago disappeared. This puts China in a very difficult situation. China desperately needs access to American markets to avoid slipping deeper into economic stagnation. It understands that trade relations with the U.S. are a core strategic interest. At the same time, President Xi Jinping needs to appear as a strong and intimidating force in the world to bolster his position in China.

Trump signaled to China that he can take away what Nixon gave them. By doing what Nixon did – using volatility and unpredictability to intimidate – Trump set the stage for a negotiation that China can't refuse. China must have access to American markets even if the terms become less favorable. Previous presidents were prepared to posture but did nothing substantial about China. With a single phone call, Trump did what he seems to do best – baffle and unnerve a negotiating partner. Is he crafty or is he crazy? Trump has shifted the issue from what China is willing to do, to how far Trump is prepared to go.

<https://geopoliticalfutures.com/trump-taiwan-and-an-uproar/>

Help Trump/Pence: Jobs, Appointments and Opportunities

If you are interested in serving in the Trump/Pence Administration, here is your first step. Fill out the application, mark your areas of interest...and then start following the process. Good luck.

<https://apply.ptt.gov/>

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